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CONTENTS

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Gorbachev Warns U.S. on Nuclear Testing AA 1
Chernyshev Scores 'New Reading' of ABM Treaty AA 1
Semenov Derides 'Broad' Interpretation of ABM [PRAVDA 21 Feb] AA 2
U.S. To Develop Kinetic Weapons for SDI AA 3
Dismantling of U.S. Bases Abroad Still Relevant [Bogachev] AA 4

WORLD & REGIONAL ISSUES

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable' [Sobolov, Yefimov, Kuznetsov] CC 1
'International Situation-- Questions and Answers' [Kasparov, Shishkin, Antsiferov, Grachev] CC 8

UNITED STATES & CANADA

TASS Condemns Shultz U.S. Foreign Policy Speech A 1
Directive Permits CIA to Kidnap, Extradite Foes [Kornilov] A 2
TASS Views U.S. Plan to Attack Libya With Egypt [Polyakovskiy] A 3
TASS Claims U.S. Plans, Stages Begun 'Arbat Show' [Slavin] A 3
U.S. To Test Cruise Missile Over Canada 24 Feb A 4

CHINA

Kapitsa Asserts Border Issue Should 'Be Ended' B 1
  'Similarity' of Stands B 1
Qian Qicheng Heads Delegation for Border Talks B 2
  Meets Shevardnadze B 2
  Agrees To Examine Demarcation B 2
  'Business-like and Frank' Talks B 2
  Visits Ulyanovsk B 3
  Seen Off at Airport B 3
U.S. Continues To Pursue 'Two Chinas' Policy B 3
Chinese Youth Soiree Strengthens Understanding B 4

SOUTH ASIA

DRA Foreign Minister in USSR En Route to Geneva D 1
  Holds Moscow News Conference D 1
    [Portanskiy in IZVESTIYA 22 Feb]
  Discusses DRA Reconciliation D 1
  Meets Shevardnadze 18 Feb D 2
    [IZVESTIYA 20 Feb]
  Talks With Vorontsov 21 Feb D 2
USSR 'Sincere' Wish for Success at Geneva Talks D 3
    [Aleksandrov]
DRA-USSR Protocol Covers Expanded Trade D 4
    [Kabul]
TASS Reports New Afghan Military Service Law D 4

EASTERN EUROPE

Szacilo Heads Polish Political Workers Group F 1
    [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 17 Feb]
  Meets Sokolov, Lizichev [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 19 Feb] F 1
PPR's Pudysz: 'Hostile' Agents Destabilizing PPR F 1
  No Extensive Underground F 2
Jaruzelski on Peace Movement, Moscow Forum F 3
    [IZVESTIYA 19 Feb]
Bulgarians, Czechs Support USSR Restructuring [PRAVDA 20 Feb] F 4

WESTERN EUROPE

Paper Assails Turkish Portrayal of Ottoman Age G 1
    [Grant in SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 18 Feb]
Italy's Andreotti To Arrive on Visit 26 Feb G 2

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

Further Reportage on Iraq's 'Aziz Moscow Visit H 1
  Views Shevardnadze Talks [Baghdad INA] H 1
  'Friendly' Talks With Ryzhkov H 1
    [IZVESTIYA 22 Feb]
  Conveys Husayn Message [Baghdad INA] H 2
  Gromyko-'Aziz Talks H 2
    [IZVESTIYA 22 Feb]
  Meets With Arab Envoys [Baghdad INA] H 4
  Airport Departure H 4
Iranian Stand Against DRA Reconciliation Viewed H 4
    [Sheftunov]
Kuwaiti Paper Cites Reports on Velayati's Talks H 5
    [Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM 15 Feb]
U.S. Efforts Toward Iranian Relations Noted H 6
    [Radio Peace and Progress]
USS Nimitz Port Call Compromises Egypt H 7
    [Velikiy, IZVESTIYA 19 Feb]

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Gorbachev's Activities in Latvia 18 February R 1
Visit to VEF Plant R 1
Further on Meeting With Aktiv R 6
Talk With VEF Worker R 8
[Meshkov, Chernyak, Yastrebtsov in PRAVDA 19 Feb]
Gorbachev Talks With Workers R 9
Talks With Jurmala Inhabitants R 11
Visit to Domskiy Cathedral R 16
Tour of Adazhi Kolkhoz R 17
Address to Kolkhoz Aktiv R 20
Moscow Reports Demonstration by Teenagers R 20
Iosif Begun Arrives in Moscow From Chistopol [AFP] R 21
Vadim Zagladin Says Dissident Poet Released [DPA] R 21
Kazakh Plenum Carries Out Personnel Changes R 22
Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium Moves Officials R 22
Knyazev Transferred R 22
Kuppayev Moved R 23
Georgian Plenum Discusses Disaster Aftermath R 23
[Lebanidze in PRAVDA 23 Feb]

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Zaykov Addresses Ulyanovsk Aircraft Builders S 1
[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 14 Feb]
TRUD Reports Belorussian Congress Discussions S 6
[Vaganov, Repin, 4 Feb]
Briefs: Uzbek Power Plant Project S 8

SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

Academician Marchuk Views Restructuring Science U 1
[PRAVDA 16 Feb]

MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

Sokolov Notes Restructuring Within Armed Forces V 1
[PRAVDA 23 Feb]

GORBACHEV WARNS U.S. ON NUCLEAR TESTING

LD202029 Moscow World Service in English 1900 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] The Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, has declared that the Soviet Union intends to use every chance to the very last one to make the United States renounce nuclear testing. He told this to people in Estonia where he is now staying in the course of his tour of Soviet Baltic republics. Many of the questions he was asked were related to foreign policy. Mikhail Gorbachev said that the Soviet Union was not conducting nuclear tests though it was forced to cancel its unilateral moratorium, as it had declared, after the first American explosion this year. Since the start of this year the United States has conducted two more blasts but, Mikhail Gorbachev warned, there are limits that cannot be crossed. If the United States doesn't join us the Soviet Union will act. We'll tell you, Mikhail Gorbachev, when this is going to happen. [sentence as heard] He stressed that the Soviet Union could not sacrifice its defense. He said the American military-industrial complex was interested in the arms race because it was making giant profits from it. The United States has always been the initiator of the arms race. The USSR cannot afford to lag behind and the Soviet people can be reassured with regard to the country's defense, but the task of the Soviet Union is to foil the arms race and an active Soviet foreign policy is directed at this.

The Soviet leader said that the renewal started in the country for accelerating its social and economic development was noticed in the West. The West would want to economically bleed the Soviet Union with the arms race, prevent if from advancing its economy, and foil the changes. I don't think they will succeed in thsi, Mikhail Gorbachev said. The entire nation favors renovation, the Soviet leader said, and this gives us confidence to continue what we have started.

CHERNYSHEV SCORES 'NEW READING' OF ABM TREATY

LD231728 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1409 GMT 23 Feb 87

["The Latest Step of Opponents of the ABM Treaty" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 23 Feb (TASS) -- Vladimir Chernyshev, TASS observer, writes:

As THE NEW YORK TIMES has reported, President R. Reagan has signed a special directive in the field of national security which is to form the basis for the administration's adopting the so-called "broad interpretation" of the ABM Treaty. Thus, official Washington is striving unilaterally to "rewrite" this very important treaty which is of fundamental importance in preventing the arms race. After all, the political and philosophical importance of the ABM Treaty lies in the fact that it guarantees stability through the absence of antimissile defense and thereby ends the age-old competition between "shield" and "sword", which is especially dangerous in the nuclear and space age.

Rejecting the very essence of the treaty, which has been observed for 15 years by several U.S. Administrations, the present U.S. leadership is attempting to replace it with some other kind of treaty which would not prohibit the development [sozdaniye] of large-scale ABM systems, but which would "regulate the order" of their development [sozdaniye]. This in fact means scrapping the ABM Treaty. The "Star Wars" strategists are pursuing the goal of freeing themselves of the fetters restricting them from complete freedom to rearm. It is precisely with this aim that they seek to make the ABM Treaty a "dead letter", with the aid of a "new reading".

Throughout the world treaties are conceived as serious obligations. In 1972 the U.S. Senate approved the ABM Treaty by 88 votes to 2, but now the White House intends to tell the world: "Its conditions have become inconvenient for us. That is why after additional thought we have decided that they are meaningless." Prominent U.S. politicians, public figures, and experts in the field of disarmament have called this "broad interpretation" "blatant cheating", "an absurdity", "a conscious distortion", "a crude perversion", and "an irresponsible step". However, all this does not bother the White House, which suffers from a fanatical, pathological devotion to the "star wars" program, strives to shape everything to its egotistical aspirations, and no matter what guarantee the interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex.

The administration's new step clearly reveals its "hostile reflex" with regard to arms control. The aforementioned directive of the U.S. delegation in Geneva contains the instruction not to conduct talks or even discuss limitations on defensive systems, which would be more rigorous than the new interpretation of the treaty. As J. Schlesineger, former U.S. secretary of defense, stated in an interview for the ABC television network, these instructions practically preclude the possibility of achieving a major agreement on arms control. I would say that in such a case all opportunities for any kind of reduction and limitation of nuclear forces are eliminated. With the destruction of the ABM Treaty the nuclear missile race will acquire new dimensions and an arms race in space will be added.

There is yet another consideration. K. Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, made the following remark: Talks on limiting nuclear weapons are merely a stunt which we must resort to in order to reassure the U.S. public and kthe European allies. Evidently, the present administration has been guided by just such an approach up until now. As for the Western allies, official Washington is clearly not taking too much trouble to reassure them, or to put it more plainly, could not care less about their concerns. How else can one explain the fact that U.S. Government emissaries P. Nitze and E. Rowny have been sent off on trips to Europe and the Pacific Basin with the task of completing consultations with the allies over "broad interpretation" by as early as 2 March? The time allocated to them is only just enough to present the allies with a fait accompli.

It is finally time for Washington to realize that the harsh realities of our time demand not the shattering of the international treaty-legal regime, not the knocking-out of key links from it, but its strengthening and the raising of its level.

SEMENOV DERIDES 'BROAD' INTERPRETATION OF ABM

PM201751 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Feb 87 First Edition p 4

["Competent Opinion" by Ambassador V.S. Semenov, counselor to the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs: "The ABM Treaty and SDI" -- first two paragraphs are PRAVDA introduction]

[Text] Speaking recently on the NBC-TV program "Meet the Press," former U.S. Secretary of State H. Kissinger declared that "if the [ABM] Treaty were read literally, then [its] broad interpretation would probably be correct."

We asked Ambassador V.S. Semenov, counselor to the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs and leader of the USSR delegation at talks with the U.S. delegation on limiting strategic arms (1969-1978) to comment on this statement. His reply follows.

As a result of protracted and complex talks the sides elaborated a common understanding on questions of the limitation of ABM systems, which is clearly enshrined in the provisions of the ABM Treaty signed in Moscow 26 May 1972.

Thus, the sides reached the common conclusion that development of an extensive ABM system would lead to an unrestricted buildup of strategic offensive weapons and the means to counter ABM systems while, by contrast, mutual restraint in the sphere of ABM systems would offer an opportunity to begin limiting and reducing nuclear weapons.

Let me recall the basic limitations undre the ABM Treaty. Under Article I, the USSR and the United States undertook without any time limit the obligation to limit ABM systems, not to deploy ABM systems on the territory of their countries, and not to provide [sozdavat] a base for such a defense. Article V bans the development [sozdaniye], testing, or deployment of ABM systems of components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based, or mobile land-based. Article III of the treaty, as explained by the 1974 protocol to the treaty, limits the deployment of permitted ABM systems to only one area in each country with the boundaries of this area limited to a radius of not more than 150 km, and sets the maximum number of ABM launchers (100), ABM interceptors themselves (100), and ABM radar stations.

By way of justification for the "Star Wars" program (SDI), the adversaries of the ABM Treaty are trying to make use of Agreed Statement "D," which speaks of the procedure for limiting future ABM systems and their components based on different principls of physics. But they deliberately ignore the initial part of the statement, which speaks of the purpose of "ensuring fulfillment of the obligation not to deploy ABM systems and their components except as provided in Article III of the Treaty."

It is clear from the context of Agreed Statement "D" and all the treaty's provisions that the sides desired to step up obligations under the treaty and to impose a strict framework on the development of ABM means in the future beyond [v privyazke k] the single ABM deployment area permitted by the treaty and protocol of 1974 and stationary ground-based systems. As for space-based or any other systems, they are clearly banned by the treaty.

It is clear from this that H. Kissinger's statements about the possibility of some "broad" interpretation of the treaty are untenable. Attempts of this kind imply the destruction of the ABM Treaty to defend the SDI program.

In advancing a package of proposals in Reykjavik for the phased elimination of nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union proposed that the ABM Treaty be strengthened by the sides adopting a commitment on not taking advantage of the right to break out of the treaty for a period of 10 years given unswerving implementation of all its provisions. It is hoped that the voice of reason will prevail in the United States. This would provide an opportunity to finally open the gates to a nuclear-free world in the interests of all the peoples.

U.S. TO DEVELOP KINETIC WEAPONS FOR SDI

LD161355 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Text] New York February 16 TASS -- In the near future the United States will develop space-based kinetic weapons capable of knocking out intercontinental ballistic missiles in the boost phase of their flight, a spokesman of the Strategic Defence Initiative organisation said in an interview to the AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY. According to the spokesman, that space strike weapon will weigh roughly 250 pounds and be small in size. It will be carried by low-orbit earth satellites.

DISMANTLING OF U.S. BASES ABROAD STILL RELEVANT

LD171752 Moscow TASS in English 1729 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 17 TASS -- By TASS military writer Vladimir Bogachev:

Washington sees the network of its military bases in Western Europe and Asia not only as a means of bringing pressure to bear on the Soviet Union and other socialist countries but also as a lever for projecting U.S. political, economic and military interests in the countries included in the so-called "zone of U.S. vital interests".

Some of the specific tasks of American military presence outside the national boundaries of the United States have changed from time to time, depending on the particular strategic concepts adopted by the Pentagon.

But the prime mission of the U.S. miltary bases overseas has always been to ensure that, if the United States starts a war, the damage to the territory of the aggressor (that is the U.S. itself) will be only minimal and that the brunt of the cost of Washington's military adventures will be borne by European and Asian nations.

The "Star Wars" program and the concept for deploying U.S. nuclear arms far from U.S. territory form the basis of the Pentagon's military strategy. The ominous meaning of the present U.S. Administration's military preparations boils down to "an ABM shield" for the United States and "a limited nuclear war" for Europe and Asia.

Apart from everything else, the U.S. allies hosting American military bases should, as the Pentagon sees it, perform the role of a lightning conductor absorbing part of the retaliatory blow.

U.S. military presence in Europe has certainly made it easier for Washington to get its medium-range nuclear missiles installed in the territories of other NATO countries.

After agreeing, contrary to their national security interests, to accept American Pershing and cruise missile deployments in their territories, European NATO countries have taken also a second fateful step, by giving their consent to cooperate with the U.S. Administration in the "Star Wars" effort.

The hopes to perpetrate aggression with impunity reflect the Stone-Age mentality which is, alas, characteristic of Washington strategy-makers.

These hopes to survive a nuclear war by exposing one's allies to the blow and thus escaping it oneself are equally illusory and dangerous. They are dangerous not only for the victim of the aggression but also to the aggressor himself.

The issue of dismantling foreign military bases was first raised by the members of the socialist community years ago but it has lost none of its relevance.

A positive resolution of this issue would constitute an important step to stronger peace and stability on earth.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD222112 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 22 Feb 87

["International Observers Roundtable" with moderator Vitaliy Sergeyevich Sobolov, all-union radio commentator, Nikolay Ivanovich Yefimov, first deputy chief editor of IZVESTIYA, and Georgiy Aleksandrovich Kuznetsov, deputy chief editor of ZA RUBEZHOM]

[Text] [Sobolev] Hello, Comrades! A few days ago in Moscow, an American who at one time planned nuclear strikes against our country, on this occasion discussed with colleagues from various countries, including Soviet republics, how to evade the nuclear threat to the United States, the USSR, and the whole world. Moreover, he managed to come to an understanding with his interlocutors on the need to do away with nuclear weapons and on other problems, and some former NATO generals were busy doing the same. The turn-about in these people's consciousness, as in many others, in my opinion, is a remarkable phenomenon: It is the triumph of the new approach to the issue of how the world should be, a corroboration of politics based on norms of morality common to all mankind, or, in short, new thinking. At the Moscow forum people met, people who are famous throughout the world and who have, so to speak, a basis to strongly influence public opinion and who hold various ideological opinions. This forum showed that new thinking is not words; it is not an appeal; it is not a dream; it is, as they say, a matter at hand.

If one is to speak frankly, then, for example, the words of U.S. Professor Galbraith about the fact that in the face of the nuclear threat we are all -- even ideological opponents -- on one side of the negotiating table, these words are not that simple and easy to take in, even for us. In order to become aware of the reality of the nuclear age, it is necessary to carry out what is known as a good deal of mental work. This work, as the forum has shown, is being carried out throughout the world. The forum itself was a site for this work. This is why, I think, that there wasn't an observer in the world who did not attach due significance to this meeting of over a thousand politicians, scientists, writers, and artists in Moscow. No one succeeded in hampering the meeting, although very serious attempts were made to do so, nor did anyone succeed in disparaging its results. For the time being they are still trying to garble its contents, and are doing so very actively, but, as they say, you can't cover new thinking any longer with a sieve.

[Yefimov] Although they are trying to cover it, perhaps what is happening now in France is fairly characteristic. In France it turns out that there is a secretary in charge of human rights issues, Claude Malhuret. For many months he remained silent when, it seems, he ought not to have been. For example, when the police in dispersing the students demonstrating against the government's policy on higher education, issues killed one of students, he was silent. When the police chained 101 Mali citizens to their aircraft seats with handcuffs and sent them out of France, he was silent. When the Renault plant dismissed nine trade union activists, he was silent; he did not meet them. Then suddenly the secretary in charge of human rights began to speak, and he began to speak in connection with the Moscow forum. The IZVESTIYA correspondent in Paris, Yuriy Kovalenko, reports that he has accused Marina Vlady, Paul Newman, and Gregory Peck -- famous people -- of playing the role of extras in Moscow. He has accused the Moscow forum of only pursuing propaganda purposes, and he has even said that the Soviet wolf is trying to pass itself off as a granny, in order, of course, to swallow up the West European Little Red Riding Hood. So, as one listens to Claude Malhurst, one cannot fail to come to the conclusion that new political thinking comes with very great difficulty to somebody who until now has been still is the prisoner of anti-Soviet fairy-tales.

What is happening in France, is, I repeat, characteristic of what was said at the forum, how people spoke at the forum, the atmosphere that reigned at the forum. Somehow they do not want to recount this, and they even suppress it when forum participants begin to talk about it, and, once again, here's a French example. The famous British writer, playwright, and actor, Peter Ustinov, was invited to appear on the Antenne-2 television channel -- this is a nationwide French channel. Hardly had he managed to begin to talk about the Moscow forum when the anchorwoman cut him short and closed this subject. They do not want the truth about the forum and the details of the forum to reach the very broad masses of the population of the West. That's how openness [glasnost] looks in France as applied to the forum, or anti-openness if you want, but the same could be said about France, [as heard] about Britain, West Germany, and a number of other countries.

[Kuznetsov] It must be said that, in my opinion, what is being given a hostile reception first and foremost is the successful side of the forum, namely those specific businesslike proposals which were put forward in the course of discussions, although they were absolutely unofficial. Well, what I have in mind is, let's say, problems of nuclear disarmament. After all, scientists, let's say, U.S. and Soviet ones, reported on their research in the field of nuclear arms reduction, and although both used different procedures, both have come to the conclusion that silo-based ICBM's and ICBM's on submarine vessels must be looked at as one set. This is the conclusion of both Soviet and U.S. scientists, and it is very important for the negotiations in progress between the Soviet Union and the United States in Geneva. That is to say that basically, in this very free discussion, with no one thrusting their points of view on anybody, and each being free to speak his mind, people came to a conclusion which is objectively a backing for the Soviet Union's stance on disarmament issues.

[Yefimov] Here's a typical opinion I found in West German newspapers. What has until now been proposed by adherents of the policy of detente in the West and contradicted by the hawks has now become evident: The Soviet advance in the field of disarmament serves the cause of real restructuring in the USSR, including the expansion of democracy.

[Kuznetsov] The chairman of the SPD group in the Bundestag, Vogel, delivered a speech in which he pointed out that the current course of the Soviet Union's development meets the interests of the West as a whole, as well as that of West Europe, including the FRG's interests. That is to say, this, as you remember, has something in common with the point made by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, who said that changes in the Soviet Union are to everybody's advantage. The leader of the SPD group spoke out for an expansion of economic, scientific, and cultural cooperation with the Soviet Union. I also would say that what the deputy chairman fo the CDU-CSU group Ruhe said is of no small importance: That these parties agree with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev that it is necessary to create confidence by the practice of cooperation, finding out about one another, and resolving common issues. It seems to me that it is of no small interest that, first of all, the West German participants in the forum sent a telegram to Chancellor Kohl while they were still in Moscow requesting that the next forum of a similar nature be held in the FRG, in Bonn. This request can now be heard in Bonn, this time in the parliament. It seems to me that this is evidence of the deep impression which, notwithstanding anti-Soviet propaganda, is being made on a significant number not only of Western Europeans but inhabitants of the West as a whole, including the United States.

[Yefimov] I cannot help quoting another West German newspaper, the KOELNER STADT-ANZEIGER, which, commenting on Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's address to the forum participants, writes the following, and I quote: The Americans have not as yet found out one thing about what their own government and their own president think about the Soviet leader's initiatives.

Apart from the official assurance that statements by the Kremlin leader will be studied carefully, the U.S. Government has not offered anything else for the time being. The more Moscow speaks, this newspaper goes on, the more silent grows the Potomac. This is the silence of a government which, in a sense, has lost its tongue. One cannot fail to notice that there are now symptoms of paralysis to be observed in Reagan and his team. At any rate, it was a fairly strong commentary.

[Sobolev] Here is another interesting fact that shows what different people found at the forum. There among its participants was the famous U.S. actor Kristofferson, an anti-war movement activist, and, at the same time, the performer of one of the main roles in the TV film "Amerika," which has been showing all this week, 2 hours daily -- a film which has acquired a regrettable reputation in many countries, including ours as well. The idea of a Soviet invasion of the United States already had been enacted on screen by U.S. cinematographers, but this time it was done with a greater scope. The main thing is that they decided to show the Americans in detail what would be Soviet reality transferred to U.S. soil. The screenwriters took some pictures of Soviet everyday life that previously had been reported very persistently to the Americans -- let's say queues and shortages of given foodstuffs -- and to them they added other features, so to speak, already on the level of creative fiction: cruelty, greed, unscrupulousness, and other things. The film, if one is to judge by the first reviews, has no artistic worth, which is what was to be expected, because you can't create this worth on the basis of spite and blind hatred.

The point is not in the worth and not even, in a broad sense, in the film. The point is the internal political situation that has engendered the idea of this film. I have before me a document of the Heritage Foundation organization. This is an ideological center of neoconservatism, the new conservatism from which have come the basic policy ideas of the present U.S. Government and some of its figures. The Heritage Foundation has up to the present fed ideas and proposals to the White House, criticizing it if these ideas and proposals are not fully implemented.

[Kuznetsov] It must be said that Reagan himself admits that he borrows two-thirds of his initiatives in the sphere of domestic and foreign policy from the recommendations of the Heritage Foundation.

[Sobolev] Yes. Now this new document sets the President 20 tasks - from developing the Star Wars program to breaking off diplomatic relations with countries that are out of favor. In other words, the new conservatism goes hand in hand with the new globalism. Though the word 'new' is used, it is a matter in both cases of an irrepressible hankering after the old. You could say that it's an ideal example of the old thinking, one of the fruits of which is this television film "Amerika."

[Yefimov] To return to the subject of the forum: In his speech in the Great Hall of the Kremlim, U.S. Professor Lown -- a well-known doctor and cochairman of the worldwide movement of physicians opposing nuclear war and advocating its prevention -- made this significant statement: We in America need publicity about the Soviet Union. We in America must know what is happening in the Soviet Union. That is what Professor Lown thinks. The President of the United States thinks differently about what America needs. Just a few days ago, he sent Congress a report on U.S. strategy in the sphere of national security. I'll quote one exceprt from that report, which, in my view, is a key passage: We are faced, writes the U.S. President, with a serious task in the sphere or national security and in the political sphere.

That task is to wage ideological war against the Soviet Union. War: that is the word used by the President of the United States. Not ideological struggle, not confrontation of views, not comparison of ways of life and so on, but ideological war.

[Kuznetsov] Yes, well, he dots his 'i's, so to speak.

[Yefimov] He doesn't even mean ideological war, but psychological war.

[Sobolev] Really, in effect, preparations for a military conflict.

[Yefimov] In such a psychological war, all means are permissible: lies, deception, sabotage. It looks as if what they're after, above all, in that war is to get the Americans to think of the Soviet man as their enemy. The film "Amerika," commissioned by the rightwingers, creates just that image, that of the enemy. This film isn't just anti-Soviet. This film is against the whole world community, because in it America is occupied not only by Soviet troops, but also by United Nations troops. They have the Russian soldiers dressed in gleaming black uniforms, their heads sealed in dark, blank helmets. The audience isn't even shown their faces. They're not human beings but some sort of faceless machine programed to obey orders unquestionably. That is the image of things Soviet that is being created for Americans.

Vitaliy Sergeyevich, you mentioned Kris Kristofferson. The IZVESTIYA correspondent Boris Ivanov had an extensive interview with this Kris Kristofferson. You know, when he brought his tape recorder and we listened to the replies given by this actor, who's well-known and popular in America; we could only marvel. Kris Kristofferson is asked the question -- he'd played in this film that was supposed to show an image of what Soviet people are like -- he was asked what book by a Soviet writer he had read. His answer: Silence. Could he name just one Soviet composer? Silence. Boris Ivanov goes on to ask, do you seriously think that "Amerika" will help to improve mutual understanding between the USSR and the United States that you profess to support? Silence. Do you think, the correspondent continues, that the film portrays Soviet people truthfully? Silence. In your opinion, can American people derive from this film objective information about the Soviet Union? Silence. Imagine: Even the actor himself knows nothing about us and after his film scores of millions of people will not only know nothing, but on the contrary, they will get distorted idea -- an idea of the image of the enemy.

[Kuzmetsov] Yes, it's very dangerous. Unfortunately, this ideological war evidently serves as a backdrop for "hot war" preparations. You know, against the background of this television film, quite a few things. I think, may pale; and yet: I read recently in the magazine U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT a cozy and unrestrained discussion of the fact that the United States is now about to deploy [razvernut] elements of the Strategic Defense Initiative. They expatiate quite calmly on the subject of tens of thousands of interceptor missiles possibly being put into orbit on 2,000 combat stations. Think for a moment: If one of those missiles were simply to hit an thermal electric power station and be activated: What would happen then?

[Sobolev] Apropos of US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, I like to glance occasionally at one issue that describes how leaders, futurologists, and simply scientists and well-known people in the West imagine the remote future. Military men in the West consider that people won't have strong enough nerves to take part in a future war -- robots will do the fighting instead.

Thus they're beginning to paint, for Americans, a rather seductive picture of military conflict in the future. An American sits at home in his easy chair, protected by an antimissile umbrella in space, while robots in vehicles fitted with the Stealth system making them invisible to radar break through the enemy's defense system. If Americans are to respond to this picture with approval, it's also necessary, of course, to convince them that the enemy deserves such treatment. Not so long ago, the U.S. head of state was assuring his fellow countrymen that it was time to consign the evil empire to the scrap-heap of history. Now, U.S. politicians don't use such words; on the other hand, the media, the cinema and television -- the television film "Amerika" is an example -- are instilling what is, in effect, the same cannibalistic idea of the evil empire and where it is destined to be consigned.

In that sense, it is very important to draw attention to those facts showing that the anti-Sovietists are meeting with resistance. One can speak of the U.S. public protests against the showing of the television film "Amerika." Other American television companies have scheduled relays of Soviet television programs to be broadcast while the film "Amerika" is being shown, so that Americans can see that our country's image is not at all as the new conservatives would like to portray it. I'd like to remind you again of the appearance of one of America's main heroes at the forum in Moscow. I'd say that was also a counterblast on behalf of the new thinking.

There's another fact I'd like to mention. Last week was proclaimed the week of struggle to abolish foreign military bases in the Indian Ocean.

[Yefimov] The Indian Ocean is a rich ocean, a rich region: forty-four states, a quarter of the world's population; vital sea routes linking various continents, including sea routes of the greatest importance to our country. They link the east and west of our country. That's what this region represents. It long ago ought to have become a zone of peace and good-neighborliness. Yes, it should have become that, but it hasn't. As long ago as 1971, the UN General Assembly adopted a declaration proclaiming the Indian Ocean a zone of peace. The declaration, however, has so far remained just that. The opposite has happened: The United States now has 30 military bases and military strongholds in the region. A special central command has been set up: CENTCOM. Nineteen countries, whether they like it or not -- they haven't been asked -- find themselves in the zone of operation of that central command. There are already 600 military aircraft here; six divisions of ground forces; and a large U.S. fleet. The position of the United States regarding this region has been expressed rather eloquently by Weinberger: It is a region where for us the terms parity or equality are unacceptable.

[Kuznetsov] That's why they severed the Soviet-U.S. talks on restricting naval activity in the Indian Ocean.

[Yefimov] Here they want to dictate their will; both to the 19 countries that have fallen under the shadow of the CENTCOM and to all the rest. The sharp end of U.S. actions in the Indian Ocean is, however, aimed against the Soviet Union. Here, I repeat, are our sea routes; from here, they can attack the southern regions of our country. What does our stance consist of? First, the Soviet Union is against any further exacerbation of the situation in the Indian Ocean. During Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to India, both the Soviet and the Indian sides supported the decision of the UN General Assembly to convene an international conference on the Indian Ocean not later than 1988. The Soviet Union is willing to hold talks on a substantial reduction in the numerical strength of naval forces in the Indian Ocean. The Soviet Union is willing to hold talks with the United States and all the other interested Asian countries on measures of trust in the military sphere on the continent and on the Indian Ocean and the Pacific.

Finally, the Soviet Union advocates talks among all states using Indian Ocean waters to draw up guarantees of the safety of the sea routes, including the Persian Gulf, Hormuz, and the Malacca Straits. As you see, it's a precise, clear and peace-losing position. Moreover, I cannot help recalling the speech of the Indian metropolitan (Mavl) Mar Gregorious in the Great Palace of the Kremlin during the forum. He said: We ultimately must destroy all weapons and achieve democratic institutions that will see to it that peace, peace accords, and security for all exist. International conventions and treaties are moral and legitimately just.

The metropolitan put it very well, and our initiatives precisely pursue this aim using his words: security for all. Therein lies the meaning of the Soviet proposals on the Indian Ocean.

[Kuznetsov] I have to say that I was with a delegation of the Soviet Peace Committee in India. Among ordinary Indians there is a very noticeable concern at the presence of U.S. naval forces in the Indian Ocean and support for those initiatives the Soviet Union is putting forward both separately from and in connection with India.

[Sobolev] Speaking of the problems of this region, I think that one also ought to touch upon the situation of Afghanistan. Tomorrow in Geneva talks begin with the aim of settling this situation. It is well-known that Afghanistan is showing the utmost good will for the sake of attaining a settlement. A process of national reconciliation is underway there. Six Soviet regiments have been removed from Afghanistan and now the matter of returning the entire Soviet troop contingent home has been paved on a practical plane and may be possible within a shorter space of time. Of course, it is impossible to resolve this problem without reciprocity on the part of Afghanistan's neighbors and on the part of the United States.

[Kuznetsov] The seventh round of the Afghan-Pakistan talks on a political settlement of Afghanistan through the mediation of the good offices of the UN under secretary Cordovez is beginning -- the seventh round. Let us hope that it will be the last one and that an accord will be secured. It has to be said that, after all, this past month we witnessed talks in the USSR with the minister of foreign affairs of Pakistan, Yaqub Khan, with the special representative of the UN secretary general, Cordovez, with the minister of foreign affairs of Iran, Velayati, and, according to press reports, Yaqub Khan will again pay a visit to Moscow on 23 February. In addition, a visit by the prime minister of Afghanistan, Keshtmand, to the USSR has just finished. I am not even speaking of earlier Soviet-Afgan contacts. All of this inspires hope in the possibility of an agreement, but, it has to be said that all in all, despite certain successes of the reconciliation policy, not everything is going so smoothly.

Yes, 20,000 people have returned from Pakistan; yes, 8,000 members of various bands have laid down their arms, although, over the whole of 1986, 13,000 ceased military operations; yes, 800 reconciliation commissions are in operation in various parts of the country -- in cities, in winter settlements, and so fourth. On the other hand, it is known that attacks and artillery bombardments in a month of the cease-fire increased threefold. It is known that an aircraft was shot down. The facts are known that several members of the extraordinary cease-fire commissions were killed and so on.

[Yefimov] A passenger aircraft....

[Kuznetsov] A passenger aircraft, yes. Why is this taking place? It has to be said that the diplomatic activity of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan is quite clearly and by no coincidence also aimed at tlks with Pakistan; much will depend on this country. As U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan Deane Hinton [as heard] said recently, the Pakistanis are in an optimistic mood.

They are taking the Soviet proposals seriously in so far as certain things really are changing in Afghanistan. If things are changing in Afghanistan, if the Soviet Union is showing the utmost good will, in Washington, by contrast, this good will does not exist.

As recently as 18 February, a special group on Afghanistan, a congressional group held, under the chairmanship of Senator Humphrey, certain hearings. Speeches were made by Ickle, the under secretary of defense, one of the Afghan Dushmans who is permanently resident in Washington. What was the discussion about? It was about the immediate and unconditional removal of USSR troops. They speak of the unconditional removal of Soviet troops and the removal from power of the present leadership. In other words, peace, as it were, on U.S. terms -- where Afghanistan would turn into a U.S. base bordering on the Soviet Union.

It is precisely for this reason that they do not want a settlement. Last year, the United States invested $470 million and this year is expecting to invest about $600 million in aid for those dushmans operating against the people's order. They are exerting an influence on Pakistan. After all, they are not hiding the fact that in relation to the forthcoming talks on aid to Pakistan -- and this is a matter of $4 billion -- Washington is exerting a direct influence on Islamabad, demanding that no agreement be reached on any conditions for a cease-fire in Afghanistan.

[Sobolev] That is, you have a situation where our country has an interest in and wants to remove our troops from Afghanistan, but the United States has no interest in this and undertakes active measures to prevent this from happening.

[Kuznetsov] That is exactly right -- This despite the fact that all the time they demagogically assert that they have an interest in a settlement for Afghanistan and allegedly wish to turn it into a neutral, peaceful country, and so froth.

[Sobolev] Clashes between bad and good will --quite vigorous ones -- took place this week in Central America, also. Recently, a peace mission made up of two secretary generals from the United Nations and the OAS and of the representatives of a number of leading countries of Latin America paid a visit to the region's countries. A short while later, a meeting of Latin American and West European foreign ministers was held in Guatemala. At the latter, just as at the former meeting, the peace act compiled by the Contadora Group got support and the intervention of the United States was condemned.

Washington officials countered these two important international missions of peace, I would say, with a series of war missions. The Washington missionaries [Sobolev laughs), have paid visits to Central American capitals on more than one occasion, attempting to knock up an anti-Nicaraguan bloc and to isolate the Sandinist government.

To this end, a conference of Central American states -- but without Nicaragua -- was held last week in the capital of Costa Rica. Here, the Costa Rican settlement plan was proposed that barely differs from U.S. plans to remove the Sandinists from power in Nicaragua. Well, intervention in the internal affairs of this country did not receive the support of Guatemala, and the San Jose mission suffered complete defeat. The U.S. neoglobalist policy in Central America suffered a further defeat as a result of the row between the ringleaders of the Nicaraguan counterrevolution.

They had fought among themselves over influence and U.S. monies: the allocations set aside for the Somozists. The state of affairs with regard to these monies is also not perfect within the U.S. leadership. In the House of Representatives and the Senate of the U.S. Congress, a bill also has been presented ending payment of these monies. The Senate Foreign Relations Commission, by 11 Democratic votes against 9 Republican votes, approved this bill. It is true that the authors of the bill are not expecting to garner in Congress two-thirds of the votes needed to rescind the President's veto. Of course, it is the President who will try to keep this bill from becoming law. As a first result of the new initiative of the legislators, however, U.S. commentators point out that the White House has decided to bide its time and to postpone for a few months a request to Congress for a further $105 million for the Somozists.

Comrades, the time of our broadcast is coming to an end. Thank you for your attention. All the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION -- QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD201904 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 20 Feb 87

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by all-union radio foreign policy commentator Pavel Kasparov, with international affairs journalists Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin and Aleksandr Nikolayevich Antsiferov and commentator Yevgeniy Grachev]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted on Kasparov recalling the Moscow Peace forum]

[Shishkin] This is what happened this week: in two entirely different places for two entirely different reasons, on one and the same day, opinions were expressed -- which, although differing, are interlinked on disarmament, the most burning problem of today.

In Washington on 16 February the report of the special group on defense policy of the Armed Forces Commission of the U.S. Congress House of Representatives was published. This report analyzes the results of Reykjavik and draws the conclusion that the Reagan administration was badly prepared for the negotiations in which it participated and that the blame for this lies in the fact that in the United States -- I quote -- the arms control process was usurped by a small group of people.

At the other end of the earth, here in Moscow, it was the final day of the International Forum for a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity. It was declared from the platform of the forum that the fate of the most important task of today must not be given over exclusively into the hands of the politicians alone. It is not only the business of politicians: We are all living witnesses of how the huge public movement is widening and rising, in which there are, all over the world, scientists, intellectuals of various professions, religious figures, women, young people, children -- more and more children -- even former military men, generals who have an intimate knowledge of what contemporary weapons are. [passage omitted] quoting CBS on the representative nature of the forum; Finnish journalist on Euromissiles question; Adelman interview in L'EXPRESS refuted by opinion polls on desire for disarmament; and Kasparov on the importance of public opinion in peace struggle]

[Shishkin continues] It is only official spokesmen of the Reagan administration, certain of its rock-hard allies in other Western capitals, who are pretending that nothing special happened and who against the background of ardent enthusiasm which greeted the results of the forum and the speech by the Soviet leader were forced to promise to make a careful study of it.

The West's attempts to present the international congress in Moscow as a propaganda trick does not correspond to reality, writes the West German paper NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG. Anyone making such attempts is not taking account of the changes that have become a reality as a result of Gorbachev's policy. To underestimate the significance of the Moscow forum, stresses the paper, would be a serious blunder. The changes taking place in the USSR produced an impression on the representatives of Western business circles. Without doubt the noncommunist majority of the participants in the Moscow forum went home fully resolved to develop the international contacts renewed or established in Moscow.

Passions are running high all over the world now as never before concerning the deployment of the first echelon of the Reagan Star Wars program. The obstinacy of the U.S. military-industrial complex is seeking to achieve this is well-known. The repeated statements by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger and by other influential representatives of the Reagan Administration on Washington's intention to trample on the ABM treaty, just as the SALT II treaty was flouted a few months ago, are also well-known.

All of this has caused an extremely painful reaction from the U.S. NATO allies. London, Bonn, Rome, Amsterdam, and other NATO capitals have become used to Washington's leadership, but, so far as one can judge, they have not lost the capapcity to make a realistic assessment of the consequences of actions. (such as Washington's acts) on the international scene. Evidently it was precisely for this reason that Lord Carrington, who is now NATO secretary general, wrote a letter t the U.S. secretary of state in which he expresses concern with the Washington's intentions. Genscher, FRG minister of foreign affairs, acted in exactly the same way. Great Britain's Prime Minister Thatcher instructed the British ambassador to the United States to make representations, while, at a joint press conference, it was directly stated that the holding of consultations with the allies on this question is of vital importance for all of America's allies. [passage omitted: favorable reactions abroad to Gorbachev's forum speech; quoting German press; repeating Soviet ideas of nuclear-free zones in Europe and elsewhere; sincerity of which is shown by the USSR's immediate signing of the Raratonga Treaty))

[Shishkin continues] All countries have the right to security. But it is a common cause: it cannot be solved by means of unilateral actions of power pressure. The concrete acts of our country clearing the way toward trust are the rational solution to this problem, which is of vital importance for humanity. The success of the Moscow International Forum for a Nuclear-Free World and for the Survival of Humanity once again has confirmed this.

[Kasparov] Thank you, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich. [passage omitted: Shishkin replies to question about the Africa fund; Antsiferov discusses FRG policies on security, unemployment; Shishkin examines plight of Indian victims of Bhopal accident; Grachev recounts historical background to interparty clashes in PDRY, quotes briefly from USSR-PDRY communique; Shishkin explains status of French overseas possessions; Shishkin cites world population facts and figures and notes efforts to curb population boom in PRC; Kasparov cites British "divide and rule" policy as historical cause of Iran-Iraq war; Kasparov answers question on difference between minister and minister of state]

TASS CONDEMNS SHULTZ U.S. FOREIGN POLICY SPEECH

LD211536 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2145 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Washington, 21 Feb (TASS) -- U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz spoke in Denver (Colorado State) yesterday at a joint session of the Institute of International Education and the International Affairs Council, delivering an extensive speech on foreign policy issues. He dwelled in particular on "the role which the United States aspires to play in today's world" and, in his own words, expounded "the chief goals of U.S. foreign policy."

Regarding relations with the Soviet Union, the secretary of state asserted that "in relations with the USSR, the United States is trying to achieve the realization of four points on the agenda: arms control, regional conflicts, issues of bilateral relations, and human rights." He went on to acknowledge that "during the course of discussions between U.S. President R. Reagan and General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, in Reykjavik, potential areas of agreements were revealed in regard to a substantial reduction, subject to mutual verification [proverka], of offensive strategic weapons." He further asserted that the United States "remains devoted to seeking such opportunities" and "will continue its efforts -- in accordance with the ABM Treaty -- aimed at studying the opportunities of strengthening...stability by means of greater reliance upon defense."

Shultz' formulation here conceals a clear effort to justify beginning work on implementing Reagan's notorious "Star Wars" program. It is well known that the U.S. Administration has with this aim in view already decided to torpedo the ABM Treaty, resorting to a "broad interpretation" of this document. These steps, as well as Washington's refusal to observe stipulations of the SALT II treaty, will lead to the destruction of existing treaty system in the sphere of arms control and are in direct contradiction to the spirit of Reykjavik.

Shultz' speech also frankly revealed the United States former policy of dragging out negotiations with the USSR on arms control and of conducting these from "a position of strength." He bluntly stated in particular: "Both time and tough negotiations are required to work out the details of any significant agreement with the USSR. To ensure that these negotiations are successful, we must take the necessary steps to keep America strong." Shultz implemented such conditions in spite of the fact that to date, the Reagan administration has spent nearly $1.5 trillion in strengthening the U.S. military might, the lion's share of which has gone toward increasing the U.S. first-strike potential and creating [sozdainye] more new and even more destructive offensive weapons. However, policy from a position of strength and attempts to secure superiority for oneself are hopeless and ruinous. As the entire history of arms control negotiations shows, this approach on Washington's part has led to blocking negotiations and to a torpedoing of efforts in search of agreement.

G. Shultz put forward as the chief tasks of the U.S. course in international affairs "the protection of our nation's security against aggression and subversive actions" and the "strengthening of freedom and democracy both at home and abroad." In so doing, he placed special emphasis on, as he put, the "challenges" allegedly made to the "national interests of the United States" in the Middle East, Africa, and in Central America, where "democracy is waging a struggle against foreign aggression." [paragraph continues]

However, it is none other than Washington which supports by all possible means the armed agression of Israeli expansionism against the Arab peoples, and which has itself more than once resorted to armed adventures against Lebanon and Libya. It is none other than Washington which is conducting a course in support of the terrorist UNITA bands in Angola and the contras in Nicaragua, by whose hands U.S. imperialism is trying to overthrow the legal governments of these countries. It is therefore not surprising that, speaking about the "challenges" to the imperialist interests of the United States, Shultz at the same time said not a word about the fact that in the current financial year, the United States is allocating $100 million to arm the Nicaraguan contra bands. Next year it is planned to allot them $105 million.

On the other hand, the secretary of state reiterated yet again the false fabrication to the effect that the sole threat to the West now is "the massed military might of the Soviet Union." He needed this to justify the aggressive course of the current administration, which is aimed at attaining the domination of the United States in the world.

DIRECTIVE PERMITS CIA TO KIDNAP, EXTRADITE FOES

LD231751 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1335 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 23 Feb (TASS) -- TASS political observer Yuriy Kornilov reports:

Citing officials and members of the U.S. intelligence service; THE WALL STREET JOURNAL reported that in January of last year President Reagan signed a secret directive permitting the CIA to kidnap people in other countries and to extradite them to the United States. The White House also sanctioned U.S. intelligence to carry out other secret operations beyond the borders of the United States, including punitive and preventive military actions. A special center in the CIA was established to aid in carrying out the directive.

This report by THE WALL STREET JOURNAL is further evidence of the true worth of the pharisaical statements by leaders of the present Washington administration, who try their utmost to portray themselves as "fighters against terrorism." In actual fact, it is no one but the United States that has promoted terrorism to the rank of state policy. The undeclared wars unleashed by Washington against Nicaragua and Afghanistan, the U.S. Naval forces in the east Mediterranean and the Persian Gulf region, and support for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola terrorist bands that operate in people's Angola -- all these are manifestations of a single order, links in a single chain. Washington's view of the world as its own domain and its arbitrary proclamation of zones of "vital interests" also stimulate the arms race, because they stem from a reliance on force, without which there is no assurance of the opportunity for political and economic diktat.

It is worth noting that this escalation in hegemonism and the increasingly open reliance on terror against sovereign states is taking place in the United States at a time when the muddy waves of "Irangate" are battering harder and harder at the hull of the U.S. ship of state. So, is this a mere coincidence? Hardly.

More likely, in the present crisis situation, when, as THE NEW YORK TIMES writes, "People are beginning to speak of the Reagan administration in the past tense," when the UK GUARDIAN writes of the growing political isolation of the White House, and THE WASHINGTON POST sees as a myth the postulate, so painstakingly cultivated by Washington, of a "decisive Presidency" -- it is in this situation that somebody in Washington is very inclined to demonstrate his "decisiveness" and to "pick up points" by stoking up tension and aggressive foreign policy adventures. This cannot but cause alarm among the international public.

TASS VIEWS U.S. PLAN TO ATTACK LIBYA WITH EGYPT

LD220238 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2235 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Washington 22 Feb (TASS) -- Oleg Polyakovskiy, TASS correspondent, reports:

The Pentagon has decided to award all those who participated in the U.S. bandit air raids on Libya last March and April with medals. In all, the Pentagon intends to distribute 158 medals for participation in this unprovoked act of aggression whose victims were the civilians of that North African country.

The fact that the decision to present awards was recently made, as secret anti-Libyan plans worked out by the White House and the CIA have come to light, is seen by local observers as a cynical attempt by Washington to confirm that it not only does not regret its action, but is even prepared for fresh acts of aggression against Libya. THE WASHINGTON POST has learned that in 1985 the White House National Security Council and the CIA drew up secret plans for three operations that were given the code names 'Flower', 'Tulip' and 'Rose.' In the middle of July 1985, Robert Gates, whom President Reagan recently decided to appoint CIA director, indicated in his report that these operations would allow "the map of North Africa to be redrawn." THE WASHINGTON POST was told of the contents of this report by those who had studied it.

The 'Tulip' plan envisaged a CIA campaign of 'Destabilization' of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, 'Flower' his overthrow, and 'Rose' joint military action by the United States and Egypt. In an attempt to involve Egypt in these plans, John Poindexter, who last year was obliged to relinquish his post as national security adviser as a result of his role in the scandalous operation involving the secret shipment of arms to Iran, visited Cairo. However, a refusal awaited Washington's envoy in Cairo: Egypt, which was offered half of Libya's territory, with the help of U.S. air support, did not wish to play a part in the U.S. aggressive plans.

As a result, the White House "limited itself" to raids on Libya in the spring of last year. However, as the CBS television network warns, the prepared plan for aggression against Libya still lies in the White House safes.

TASS CLAIMS U.S. PLANS, STAGES BEGUN 'ARBAT SHOW'

LD231653 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 23 Feb 87

["How the Arbat Show was Planned" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow February 23 TASS -- TASS correspondent V. Slavin writes:

A certain Madam Inessa Begun with her son and accompanying persons appeared in the doorway of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow on February 11. [paragraph continues]

The first secretary of the embassy accompanied them to a premise where other officials gathered, too. "So, you chose freedom and wish to go to Israel." This is, apparently, how an embassy official started the conversation, walking the floor. "Quite right, to New York," said Begun Jr. who does not get on well in geography. "I take you understand that the more unpleasantness you cause here before departure, the sweeter your life in America will be", the official went on. "Tell, Mister, what we must do", said the eager youngster. "We have worked out an operation to discredit the efforts of the Russians in the sphere of democratic transformations in the country. You must publicly declare in Moscow demanding the release of your father and husband who is serving a term for anti-social activity. For this purpose you stage a show in one of the streets of the capital, the show with waving portraits and streamers, with screams and disguise".

"But I was told that my husband had been released and was on the way home", Mother Begun, slow on the uptake, and her son exchanged glances. "This is what I am telling you: You must make haste. We shall stage the show while he is on the way home. Don't be afraid, you will be backed up by our journalists", and the official pointed at America and other Western correspondents who drew nearer. "Behave as if you were in New York, not in Moscow. Bully passers-by, especially women. They are less restrained and might answer you in kind. And that's just what we want. The one who gets arrested will get the highest mark. And then we shall really go at it".

This is how the Arbat show was planned. And those who orchestrated it believe it has been a success. There was everything: hysterics, howls, and the bullying of passers-by. Militiamen who arrived on the spot fined the disturbers of the peace to a tune of 40-50 roubles. One thing has not happened. Seeing the grimaces of hired clowns, Muscovites who were strolling in Arbat have not fallen for the provocation. But when the disgusting show was over, they made a demand to the city authorities that they should not be tolerant with hooligans, no matter what their citizenship, again. Sound advice, particularly in view of the fact that the event described here shows that there exist the forces with whom the process of democratisation that has started in our country goes against the grain.

U.S. TO TEST CRUISE MISSILE OVER CANADA 24 FEB

LD231143 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Ottawa February 23 TASS -- The Pentagon is to carry out on Tuesday [24 February] a fresh test of a cruise missile over Canada's northern areas, a spokesman for Canada's National Defence Ministry informed. A cruise missile to be launched from an American strategic bomber over the Beaufort Sea will fly at a low altitude to the proving range near the Cold Lake military base, on the border between Alberta and Saskatchewan provinces.

Canada's coalition of trade union, anti-war and church organizations said that a demonstration of protest would be held outside the legislative assembly building in Edmonton on the day of the test. Early last year two U.S. cruise missile tests ended in a flop. One of the main demands of broad sections of the country's public is that for an end to the testing of U.S. missiles.

KAPITSA ASSERTS BORDER ISSUE SHOULD 'BE ENDED'

LD201623 Moscow TASS in English 2011 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 19 TASS -- The Soviet Union's stand on the question of the frontier between the USSR and China is that it would be natural for both sides to start verifying the frontiers, said director of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences Mikhail Kapitsa. Speaking today in the broadcast of Soviet television "For Peace and Security in Asia" he noted that the treaties on the frontier were concluded 100 and over years back, that along a number of stretches the border had not been delimitated, that certain natural phenomena had taken place which, certainly, resulted in the deviation from historic borders in certain places. Wherever it will turn out that we have spread beyond that line we are prepared to pull back to the border agreed under treaty. Where the Chinese side spread beyond the border it will have to pull back. We hold that given goodwill this can be agreed upon, the more so since China and the Soviet Union are socialist states, the Soviet scientist said.

The USSR holds it would be important if the so-called territorial issue between the two countries be ended.

A great deal has been done over the past four years to strengthen relations between the USSR and China, M. Kapitsa said. Relations develop most successfully in practical spheres. For instance, the volume of trade between the USSR and China went up nine-fold. Border trade assumes a wide scope. Cooperation was restored in the sphere of economy, science, technology and other areas. As refers international problems, despite certain differences of stands of the two countries on separate questions, there is closeness of views of the USSR and China in the struggle for peace and international security.

'Similarity' of Stands

OW201757 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Speaking at the Moscow TV Station yesterday, Kapitsa, director of the Institute of Oriental Studies of the USSR Academy of Sciences, touched on the process of the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations. He pointed to the resumption of economic cooperation between the two countries, saying that at present there are cooperative agreements on seven new projects under construction and the renovation of 17 other projects. The Soviet Union has agreed to aid the completion of construction of a trunk railway from Xinjiang to the Soviet border. Scientific and technological cooperation has resumed. Now 200 university students and postgraduate students are studying in Soviet institutions of higher learning. The situation along the border is generally stable.

Referring to the stands taken by the two sides on international issues, Kapitsa pointed out that there are certain issues involving different countries toward which the two sides do not take the same stand. However, Kapitsa stressed, the similarity of their stands toward the question of striving for peace and international security has been increasingly noticed.

QIAN QICHENG HEADS DELEGATION FOR BORDER TALKS

Meets Shevardnadze

LD231637 Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 23, TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, today received Qian Qicheng, leader of a government delegation from the People's Republic of China to Soviet-Chinese talks on border issues and a deputy foreign minister of the PRC.

After pointing out that Soviet people are following with keen interest Chinese people's efforts to cope with a modernization program and wishing them success in this work, Eduard Shevardnadze told Qian Qicheng about the results of the January plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the significance of its decision to fulfilling the tasks of renewal and social and economic speedup which have been set by the 27th congress of the CPSU.

They discussed some questions of further developing relations between the USSR and the PRC as well as international issues of mutual interest, including those related to the situation in Asia and the Pacific.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the resumption by the USSR and the PRC of their talks on border issues, which can help create an atmosphere of goodneighbourliness i Soviet-Chinese relations.

Agrees To Examine Demarcation

LD231123 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze, has received in Moscow the head of the Chinese delegation at the Soviet-Chinese talks on border issues, Deputy Foreign Minister Qian Qichen. The talks were held in Moscow and were completed today.

An agreement was reached to examine the demarcation of the state frontier between the USSR and China throughout its stretch [as heard]. The two men discussed ways of promoting bilateral relations and examined international issues, including the situation in Asia and the Pacific.

'Business-like and Frank' Talks

LD231338 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1255 GMT 23 Feb 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] In accordance with a previously reached accord, Soviet-Chinese talks on border issues were held from 9 to 23 February in Moscow. Both sides have expressed their satisfaction over the resumption of the talks, and they have agreed to review the course of the state border between the USSR and the PRC along its entire length, beginning this work from in the eastern part of the border. The talks took place in a business-like and frank [otkrovenniy] atmosphere. The next round talks is to be held in Beijing.

Visits Ulyanovsk

OW230858 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0100 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] The Chinese government delegation led by Vice Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has concluded a 2-day visit to the USSR with a visit to Ulyanovsk City at the middle reaches of the Volga River in our country, where members of the delegation familiarized themselves with the city's life.

In an interview with a TASS correspondent, Qian Qichen said: We were very pleased to have the opportunity to visit the city where Lenin was born and spent his childhood. Lenin is known in every household in China. The October Revolution, which was led to victory by Lenin, had a great impact on the Chinese Revolution.

The guests from China visited the building where Lenin was born, the middle school he attended, and the home of the Ulyanov family. They also visited and laid fresh flowers at a statue of Lenin, the founder of the CPSU and the Soviet State, which stands toweringly on the bank of the Volga River.

They had a meeting with the instructors at the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance's civil aviation center for speciality training. Qian Qichen said: We were deeply impressed by our visit to this training center. China is now buying Soviet planes and a large group of Chinese civil aviation personnel are receiving training in Ulyanovsk on the operation of various kinds of airliners. During a conversations they told us that their training here has been very fruitful.

The Chinese Government delegation also visited the city's art museum.

Seen Off at Airport

LD241023 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 14 Feb 87

[Text] On 23 February the government delegation of the People's Republic of China, headed by Qian Qichen, vice-minister of foreign affairs, left Moscow for home. The delegation took part in Soviet-Chinese talks on border issues.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by Comrade Rogachev, head of the Soviet Government delegation at the talks, deputy minister of foreign affairs, and other officials. The send-off party included Li Zewang, PRC ambassador to the USSR and embassy officials.

U.S. CONTINUES TO PURSUE 'TWO CHINAS' POLICY

OW230930 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 21 Feb 87

[From "Current Events and Commentaries" program]

[Text] During a Panamanian parliamentary delegation's visit to China, (Menteniekoluo), a member of the delegation, said that the majority of Panamanian legislators favor establishing diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China.

However, the United States has applied pressure on Panama and other countries in the region, urging them to maintain relations with Taiwan and not to establish diplomatic relations with China. An observer of this station has the following comments in this regard:

For 30 years the United States stubbornly refused to recognize the People's Republic of China, which has a population of 1 billion. However, because of temporary political interests, Washington finally severed its relations with Taiwan and established diplomatic relations with China. After that, Washington solemnly declared in three U.S.-Chinese joint communiques that there is only one China, which has Beijing as its capital, and that Taiwan is a part of China.

Why does the United States use all its influence over the Latin American nations to force the majority of these nations to maintain diplomatic relations with the Kuomintang clique, which does not represent anybody? What should be pointed out here is that only more than 10 of the 50 Latin American nations have established diplomatic relations with China. The point is that under the cover of solemn assurances and declarations the United States has continued to explore new ways to promote its "two Chinas" or "one China, one Taiwan" theory. For this purpose Washington adopted the U.S.-Taiwan relations act (?100) days after it established relations with China. By doing so, the United States is able to maintain all its relations with Chiang Kai-shek elements, including military relations. The United States annually supplies Taiwan with over $800 million worth of weapons. Washington's efforts control the regime by having it on its protection and to maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan are apparently aimed at preventing the anti-people regime in Taiwan from being totally isolated politically and creating a false image that a sovereign country called the Republic of China does exist in this world.

CHINESE YOUTH SOIREE STRENGTHENS UNDERSTANDING

OW181225 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0200 GMT 16 Feb 87

[Excerpts] One evening in February, Chinese graduate students studying in Moscow and Soviet youths of Moscow gathered at the House of Friendship, a place with a fine atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. Among the performances that evening were dances prepared jointly by Soviet and Chinese youths and the showing of animated cartoons. However, the highlight of the evening was the contact between the Soviet and Chinese youths. It must be pointed out that on that evening not only new friends were made, but also old friendships were renewed. [passage omitted]

(Xiao He), one of this reporter's old acquaintances, was also present. We got acquainted at China Peoples University. Currently...she is a probationer at the Moscow national economic institute. She said: today, we happily gather under the same roof at the house of Friendship with Soviet friends and spend a pleasant evening together. We believe a distinguished gathering like this can greatly help strengthening the understanding and friendship between the Chinese and Soviet people. After being cut off from each other for nearly 30 years, we lack mutual understanding. I have found this out after I arrived in the Soviet Union. Quite a few Soviet youths do not know about the current situation among Chinese people. They also do not know about the life, dreams, desires, and ideals of Chinese youths. We Chinese youths also lack an understanding of the Soviet people and Soviet youths. Therefore, I believe a grand meeting like this is very helpgul for promoting understanding between us. Therefore, I feel very happy and enjoy this evening. We believe that understanding is the first step toward friendship. So I think the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association should sponsor more activities like this in future. [passage omitted]

DRA FOREIGN MINISTER IN USSR EN ROUTE TO GENEVA

Moscow News Conference

PM231455 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Portanskiy report: "For the Sake of National Reconciliation"]

[Text] 'A. Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and DRA foreign minister, who is stopping over in Moscow en route to Geneva, held a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center 20 February.

In his statement to journalists 'A. Wakil said in particular that the national reconciliation program is supported not only internally but also by many countries and peoples. Only the forces of imperialism and reaction headed by the United States were caught unaware by the DRA's peace offensive and have since been erecting obstacles to it.

However, we are certain, 'A. Wakil continued, that we will cary out our humanitarian program. Some 25,000 Afghans have returned home since the announcement of national reconciliation. It can be boldy stated that most Afghans who are abroad are preparing to return. But regrettably, they are being prevented from doing so.

During the news conference the DRA foreign minister also referred to the upcoming latest round of the Geneva talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan aimed at achieving a political settlement to the situation around Afghanistan. In this regard 'A. Wakil stated that DRA representatives intend to continue showing goodwill and readiness to make any necessary efforts for the sake of achieving results which would accord with the Afghan people's supreme interests.

Discusses DRA Reconciliation

LD202327 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Remarks made by 'Abdol Wakil, DRA foreign minister, at a news conference held at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Center on 20 February -- recorded; Wakil speaks in vernacular with superimposed translation]

[Text] The people's government, as a first step in implementing the national reconciliation policy, announced the unilateral cease-fire which, despite constant violations of it by the opposing side, is being observed by government troops. One can talk about the first results of this peace-loving step. Armed groups, whose overall number totals about 15,000 men, have already gone over to the side of the revolutionary government. Talks are being conducted with hundreds of other armed groups. [Moscow TASS in English at 1322 GMT on 20 February in a similar report adds: "The minister said that more than 400 armed bands were observing the truce at present."] At the same time that the national reconciliation policy is being implemented, the DRA is carrying out a broad program to raise the economic and cultural level of our country. One year in the country's first 5-year plan has been concluded successfully. [Moscow TASS in English at 1344 GMT on 20 February in a similar reports adds: "State and mixed enterprises have fulfilled the plan by 105.7 per cent. The Soviet Union renders most effective assistance in its implementation."]

Now are on the verge of the latest round of talks in Geneva between the DRA and Pakistan in the search for ways of bringing about a political resolution of matters around Afghanistan. In connection with this I can announce frankly that we are doing everything possible to achieve definite results at these talks, because the problem of settling the situation around Afghanistan meets the highest goals and aspirations of the freedom-loving Afghan people.

As is well-known the Soviet Union has already brought home six of its requirements from the DRA and is prepared to return the remainder of its contingent of troops in a shorter period. But goodwill is required for this from the other side, including from the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors, and it is here that as yet we cannot see realistic countersteps. We are prepared to do everything possible so that the forthcoming talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan will yield results and will be conclusive.

Meets Shevardnadze 18 Feb

PM201342 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed article: "In a Comradely Atmosphere"]

[Text] On 18 February Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, met 'Abdol Wakil, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan and DRA foreign minister, who is in Moscow enroute to Geneva.

During the conversation, there were discussions concerned with the political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan, particular in the light of the upcoming Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva.

The DRA minister told Eduard Shevardnadze of the efforts by the Afghan leadership to implement the program of national reconciliation which it has put forward. The coinciding opinion was expressed that the national reconciliation process in Afghanistan and the achievement of a political settlement around that country were linked and therefore success in one of these areas would promote progress in the other.

The Soviet side stressed that a political settlement of the situation concerning Afghanistan will accelerate the withdrawal of the Soviet limited military contingent from the DRA.

In this connection, Eduard Shevardnadze drew his interlocutor's attention particularly to relevant points in the speech by Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, at the Moscow forum.

Some other international problems were also touched upon during the talk. The ministers' meeting proceeded in a warm, comradely atmosphere.

Talks With Vorontsov 21 Feb

LD221124 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1010 GMT 22 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 22 Feb (TASS) -- On 21 February, 'Abdol Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Political Bureau and DRA minister of foreign affairs, who was in Moscow en route to Geneva, had a meeting with Yuliy Vorontosov, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR.

USSR 'SINCERE' WISH FOR SUCCESS AT GENEVA TALKS

LD231243 Moscow TASS in English 1208 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 23 TASS -- By APN correspondent Maksim Aleksandrov:

The next stage of the seventh round of Afghan-Pakistani talks through Diego Cordovez, a personal envoy of the U.N. secretary general, is scheduled to open in Geneva on Wednesday, February 25. Moscow sincerely wishes every success to these talks, whose aim is to ensure a political settlement around Afghanistan in the interests of all peoples of the region. The USSR has never been an indifferent observer of the course of the Afghan-Pakistani dialogue, which began in 1982 due to the DRA's efforts. Thus wishing to give an impetus to the Geneva process, the Soviet Union returned home from Afghanistan six of its regiments last October. The policy of national reconciliation proclaimed on the eve of the new year has full support of the USSR.

Since January 15, the unilateral ceasefire announced by the government has been in effect in Afghanistan, a dialogue has been started with the opposite side. Over the past month alone, more than 20,000 Afghans returned home and nearly 15,000 gave up armed struggle. Nearly 5,000 prisoners were amnestied in Afghanistan. The country's leadership declared its striving to set up a national union government up to lending it a coalition character.

For its part the USSR has stepped up efforts towards the talks. The Afghan problem was the subject of discussion during the visit to Pakistan of Anatoliy Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, the visits to Moscow of Diego Cordovez, the personal envoy of the U.N. secretary general at the Afghan-Pakistani talks in Geneva, the foreign ministers of Pakistan and Iran. In his address to the participants in the international forum in Moscow "for a nuclear free world, for the survival of humanity" on February 16, Mikhail Gorbachev pointed out that the Soviet Union would return home from Afghanistan the whole of its military contingent within the shortest time possible. But to settle that problem it takes reciprocity from the United States and Afghanistan's neighbors. It also takes international efforts.

Deplorably, there is so far no reciprocity of this kind. The United States takes an openly destructive stand. It is trying to frustrate the national reconciliation policy pursued by the DRA Government, continues supplying Afghan counter-revolutionaries with the latest types of weapons, including the anti-aircraft missiles "Stinger". In the current fiscal year alone the U.S. Administration is planning to spend six hundred million dollars on armed interference in Afghanistan's home affairs.

The new round of Afghan-Pakistani talks scheduled to open in Geneva on February 25 could be a closing one, Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov pointed out in his speech at a reception on February 18 in honour of Sultan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, should there be sincere wish on both sides. Afghanistan is known to wish so. International public expects that peace will ultimately triumph in Afghanistan.

DRA-USSR PROTOCOL COVERS EXPANDED TRADE

LD210336 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] A protocol on trade transactions for 1987 between the DRA and the USSR was concluded yesterday in Moscow. This protocol covers expansion of trade between the two countries and trade with Afghanistan's private sector.

In accordance with this document the Soviet side will provide Afghanistan with machinery, equipment, transportation vehicles, petroleum products, steel, timber planks, foodstuff, and consumption commodities.

The Afghan side will export to the Soviet Union gas, agricultural products, and a number of other items.

TASS REPORTS NEW AFGHAN MILITARY SERVICE LAW

LD231343 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Kabul February 23 TASS -- Upon adopting an appropriate decree, the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA) at its special meeting has considered and endorsed a new law on universal military service.

The law points out that service in the ranks of the DRA's Armed Forces is an honorary and patriotic duty of the citizens of Afghanistan.

The task of the Republic's Armed Forces is to uphold the independence, national sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the country and the gains of the April revolution.

The DRA's citizens reached the age of 18 shall be drafted for service with the armed forces. Persons under 40 who are liable to military service and who have already served their term shall be recalled if necessary.

The term of active military duty is two years.

However, the term of active duty is from one year to eighteen months for some brackets of persons subject to recall, including persons with a higher education.

Able-bodied men shall be drafted into the armed forces twice a year by an order of the country's minister of defence. The number of draftees shall be determined by the Council of Ministers of the DRA.

The law specifies the brackets of the DRA's citizens who are exempted from military duty as well as those who are entitled to deferment. The latter bracket also includes the returning refugees who are subject to call-up.

SZACILO HEADS POLISH POLITICAL WORKERS GROUP

PM171317 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Delegation Arrives"]

[Text] A delegation of leading Polish political workers headed by Lieutenant General T. Szacilo, chief of the Polish Armed Forces Main Political Directorate, arrived in the Soviet Union 16 February at the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

The Polish guests were met at the airport by Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, and other Soviet political workers.

Brigade General A. Czernow, military, naval, and air attache at the Polish Embassy in the USSR, was among the welcoming party.

Meets Sokolov, Lizichev

PM191425 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] On 18 February Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, received Division General T. Szacilo, member of the PZPR Central Committee and chief of the Polish Army Main Political Directorate, who has come to the Soviet Union at the head of a delegation of Polish Army political workers. Warm, friendly talks were held in which Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, participated.

PPR'S PUDYSZ: 'HOSTILE' AGENTS DESTABILIZING PPR

LD241022 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0910 GMT 24 Feb 87

[Text] Warsaw, 24 Feb (TASS) -- The capitalist West is waging an unbridled propaganda campaign against socialist Poland, knowingly employing foul means, stated General Zbigniew Pudysz, under secretary of state of the PPR Ministry of Internal Affairs.

In an interview with TASS political observer Sergey Kulik, the general noted in particular that no small place in this campaign is given over to false conjectures about certain "martyrs of freedom" in Poland. Moreover, those who are posing as the "defenders" of human rights hang the label of "political prisoner" on saboteurs, wreckers, and terrorists, illegally demanding their release.

For example, among those whom they are attempting to pass off as "political prisoners" there is a "trio" of saboteurs -- the Wypychowski brothers and their friend Radosz from the province of Lodz, says Z. Pudysz. Their "political activity" consisted of derailing a passenger train and two goods trains. In accordance with a court decision in the Pomeranian Military District, the criminals have been sentenced to lengthy terms of imprisonment. The investigation into their case revealed that all three are connected with "Solidarity." During the trial, they admitted that they were committing acts of sabotage under the influence of Western propaganda.

One ought to say quite clearly that in the United States and a number of other NATO countries, the problem of so-called "political prisoners" in Poland is being blown-up not at all because Washington, Bonn and Paris are being guided by "humanitarian considerations." On the contrary, the West has a stake in there being political prisoners in Poland, the under secretary of state of the PPR Ministry of Internal Affairs continued. This gives our political opponent the opportunity to "keep afloat" all kinds of anti-Polish campaigns, and despite the facts, to claim that there exists an "active underground" in the PPR, as they allege.

The material of the inquiry into the K. Beilinski, E. Kulik, J. Teliga case convincingly proves the existence of criminal links between the illegal groups and the Western special services. In this regard, or particular interest are the computer diskettes, which the financial accounts of the Brussels "Solidarity" office were recorded on, and the lists of radio engineering and printing equipment that had been transferred illegally to the PPR.

The security service also has possession of documents that have been passed through a decoding machine and that were confiscated from people who to this day are trying to call themselves "trade union activists." In the top left corner of them the handwriting of Z. Bujak, and, in the text, figures, narrow columns of figures, often running into six digits, can be seen. These came from the most varied sources in the West, even including government sources.

Hostile political secret agents, the secret agents of anticommunism -- that is the most suitable definition for those people in Poland today who are striving in vain to pass themselves off as some sort of "political opposition," PPR Undersecretary of State of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Z. Pudysz concluded. Their leaders are receiving money for expressing readiness to carry out orders from abroad to destabilize socialist Poland.

No Extensive Underground

LD230938 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] Warsaw February 23 TASS -- Whatever propagandists who are hostile to us may say, there is no organised underground in the form and on the scale claimed in the West, General Zbigniew Pudysz, Poland's deputy interior minister, said in an interview to TASS political news analyst Sergey Kulik. To begin with, there are no objective causes for the activities of such an underground. As compared with 1980-1981, we view the situation in Poland as very auspicious. The social and political life has been stabilized. The international positions of our state have grown stronger. All this explains the narrowing and shrinking of the social base of the enemy, the loss of trust in the leaders of the so-called opposition, including the leaders of the former Solidarity, and their growing and deepening isolation in all the social strata.

The general noted that in terms of political consequences, the activities of the anti-socialist elements have long ceased to be a serious problem for the state. Objectively, there are in Poland today a few groupings which are presented by their leaders, well-known in the period of solidarity, as "vigorous secret structures." The political enemy has no program except the total and arbitrary rejection of everything related to the socialist system, the general continued. There are in the anti-Socialist camp obvious and growing disintegration processes, quarrels, clashes and disputes over the tasks, tactics and methods of activities against the state. Moreover, there are personal rivalries, squabbles over cash sops from the West and its trust.

Another factor with which we reckon in our elevations of the existing threat to public order in the state is the operations of Western subversive and propaganda centres against Poland, General Pudysz continues. The target of this activity, which has the character of propaganda aggression, is tp spread mistrust of the possibilities of the socialist system and its ability to resolve social and economic problems. Symptomatically, the operations of the secret services of the NATO countries and centres of political subversion are synchronised. It is under the influence of Western intelligence services that the subversive underground engages more and more often in intelligence-gathering and subversive operations rather than in politics. This is illustrated, inter alia, by the results of investigations into more than ten cases of spying and high treason last year alone.

The general said that there were attempts to revive some Solidarity structure and rally to its banner at least some of its former supporters, supposedly ready for positive actions. Their main slogan, however, is the same old "trade union plurality" which cost Poland so dearly in the recent past.

In today's Poland emphasis in our work is being shifted to prophylaxis, diagnosis and forestalling our political opponents. However, if methods of prophylaxis with respect to persons posing a real threat to law and order and the basic interests of the socialist state fail, we will not hesitate to use repression. Every Pole, unless wishing to stain himself for ever by contacts with forces which are hostile to us, should know that struggle against the socialist state is not merely hopeless but first and foremost harmful to Poland itself.

JARUZELSKI ON PEACE MOVEMENT, MOSCOW FORUM

PM201415 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS dispatch: "W. Jaruzelski on the Moscow Forum"]

[Text] Warsaw, 18 Feb -- The Polish public could not have received more positively the vivid, profound speech of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, during his meeting with the participants in the Moscow International Forum "For a Nuclear-free World, for the Survival of Humanity," W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, said here when he received a group of representatives of the Polish peace movement.

This speech is a concrete manifestation of the Soviet peace offensive. The comprehensive Soviet initiatives that are aimed at curbing the arms race and contain a humane, realistic vision of a truly humane world on the threshold of the next millenium open up the prospect of lasting peace and relaxation of tension. They have the wholehearted support of the Sejm, the Polish State Council and government, and the Polish public.

The will of the peoples, both in Poland and in other countries, to defend peace, the Polish leader pointed out, is playing an important role at present in determining the climate of international relations and is a tremendously important factor in a whole range of actions aimed at halting nuclear tests, forestalling the militarization of space, and ensuring the phased reduction of nuclear arsenals. Despite its great heterogeneity, the peace movement represents a qualitatively new element in the social and political panorama of the present-day world an is exerting an increasingly tangible influence on world public opinion and on the governments of many countries. With every passing year this movement is increasingly becoming a force to be reckoned with.

BULGARIANS, CZECHS SUPPORT USSR RESTRUCTURING

PM201523 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Feb 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS reports under the general heading: "Lasting Significance"]

[Text] Sofia, 19 Feb -- In the report of T. Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council, which was examined at a BCP Central Committee Politburo sessions, it is emphasized that the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum is of great significance in realizing the common tasks facing the fraternal socialist countries at the present crucial stage of development and will help to increase socialism's magnetism on a world scale. That document has been published in Bulgarian newspapers today.

The plenum report by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the plenum decisions, the document states, developed an integral view of the nature and essence of restructuring in the USSR. They voice firm determination to turn that course into the consciousness and will of the entire party and the entire Soviet people. Bulgarian Communists and the entire people fully support the CPSU's restructuring line and welcome the new style in the CPSU's work and the new approaches to solving urgent problems.

The ensuring of a close link between restructuring and the democratization of Soviet society has met with a positive response throughout the world. The plenum decisions will have a favorable impact on the development of the socialist community and the entire world socialist system, on processes in the international communist and workers movement, and on the development of the struggle to save mankind from nuclear catastrophe.

Prague, 19 Feb -- Czechoslovak Communists are following with great attention the CPSU's actions in restructuring all aspects of the life of Soviet society in the spirit of the Leninist strategic line elaborated by the 27th CPSU Congress. They are making extensive use of its innovative theoretical and practical results, which are of fundamental significance for the USSR and the entire socialist community and for strengthening socialism's positions and increasing its attraction in the world. This is emphasized in the report published here today on a CPCZ Central Committee Presidium session. During a discussion of some questions of the implementation of the 17th CPCZ Congress decisions, the exceptional significance of an international exchange of experience among the socialist countries' fraternal parties was noted.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium emphasized that the results of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum, which make an important creative contribution to resolving tasks of socialist building, have met with a broad response and support from the Communists and the public of the CSSR. The possibilities of using them under Czechoslovak conditions in the process of fulfilling the 17th CPCZ Congress decisions were discussed. It was pointed out that the further deepening of socialist democracy and the strengthening of openness and the effectiveness of control must be an inalienable part of the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. Connected with this are the consistent observance of the Leninist norms of party and social life, the improvement of the activities of organs of people's power, and the all-around broadening of working people's involvement in management.

PAPER ASSAILS TURKISH PORTRAYAL OF OTTOMAN AGE

PM231015 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 18 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Ye. Grant article": "Profit From Lies"]

[Text] The chorus of "radio voices" set up in the West and other countries in the NATO military bloc and actively used in subversive propaganda includes the "Voice of Turkey," which broadcasts to the Soviet Union in Russian. Its "repertoire" is quite varied: current affairs, episodes from history, biographies of Turkish statesmen, and advertisements for tourist excursions.

One of its main subjects is the history of the Ottoman Empire, its "reassessment": and "new" interpretation. "Voice of Turkey" suggests to its audience that under the Ottoman peace reigned and all nations prospered, and that if any of these nations still exist today and continue their history, this is thanks to the concern of the Turkish rulers. It enthusiastically reports on the "anniversary" dates of aggressive campaigns by Turkish sultans, praising their "wisdom" and "courage"...

And what does it have to say about the constant unrest, uprisings, and national liberation movements of the Arabs, Armenians, Bulgarians, Greeks, Georgians, Kurds, Yugoslavs, and other peoples enslaved by the Ottoman Empire? "Voice of Turkey" ascribes these processes to... instigation from outside the country and the actions of foreign powers, especially Russia.

We have no intention of denying or whitewashing the aggressive aspirations of Western countries and Czarist Russia. Predatory morality prevailed in the past, but this applies primarily to the rulers of the Ottoman Empire, where national and social oppression reigned supreme in the most brutal forms.

The Turkish sultans tried by fire and the sword to suppress liberation movements of the peoples they had enslaved -- but in vain. The military-feudal empire which had been forcibly created was found to crumble -- and so it did. Suffering defeat after defeat during World War I, the Turkish rulers tried to shift the blame for this onto the Christian population, primarily the Armenians, accusing them all of being "Russian agents" and "enemies of the empire." As many as 1.5 million innocent inhabitants were massacred and the whole of western Armenia turned into a scorched desert.

Denying well-known facts without adducing any proofs, "Voice of Turkey" states that no genocide occurred and that wartime caused losses on both sides, as if the Turks lost even more people than the Armenians. This is all part of Turkish propaganda today.

We will not cite the numerous horrifying testimonies of those who witnessed this crime -- the first genocide of the 20th century -- or the official Turkish documents giving orders and instructions on the procedure for wiping out the Armenian population. But we will quote the verdict passed by the military tribunal in Istanbul (February-July 1919) on the case of the former Ottoman rulers: "The crimes committed after the Armenians were banished to various places and at various times were not isolated, localized actions. They were premediated and executed on instructions from a central organ..."

Having failed to deceive the world public regarding the Armenian genocide, Istanbul and its propaganda apparatus has lately been trying to shake the world with sensational "exposes": The Armenians allegedly massacred large numbers of the innocent Turkish population at that time. The "Voice of Turkey" has been broadcasting reports that mass graves of Turks "slaughtered" by the Armenians in 1918 have been discovered in the Erzurum region. The falsity of these reports is obvious: There simply were not and could not have been any Armenians in that region at that time.

It is dangerous to forget the lessons of the past. The memory of the genocide victims is simultaneously a summons to vigilance. Judging by official Turkish statistics, there is no such national minority as the Kurds in Turkey. Approximately 10 million Kurds are described as mountain dwellers. And when Turkish propaganda does refer to the Kurdish problem, it only gives its own interpretation. The "Voice of Turkey" criticizes the Kurdish liberation movement in every possible way and reduces it to the level of actions by "splittist bandit groups."

The Turkish ruling circles' pan-Turkic, pan-Islamic policy has had very far-reaching consequences. This is shown by the anti-Bulgarian hysteria recently whipped up by Turkish propaganda, with the "Voice of Turkey" playing an active role. All kinds of accusations are being made against socialist Bulgaria! Almost every day the "Voice of Turkey" brings up this subject and finishes, as a rule, with insults and threats. It lacks any sense of elementary objectivity and deliberately avoids telling the truth about the tragic consequences of 500 years under the Ottoman yoke, when the Bulgarians were forcibly Turkicized and Islamicized on a massive scale.

The Turkish ruling circles have turned the country into the main NATO bridgehead in the Middle East -- there are numerous U.S. military bases with nuclear weapons there. The raging militarism and the burden of military expenditure have exacerbated the country's economic crisis still further, and inflation and growing mass unemployment are making themselves felt. Thousands of progressive figures are languishing in jail, subjected to cruel torture. On this subject "Voice of Turkey" is deaf and dumb, so to speak.

ITALY'S ANDREOTTI TO ARRIVE ON VISIT 26 FEB

LD201428 Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 20 TASS -- Italian Foreign Minister Guilio Andreotti will arrive in the USSR on February 26 to attend the cremonial opening of the Soviet branch of the "World Laboratory," an international association of scientists for exchanges of scientific information and joint peaceful research projects.

He has been invited by the Soviet Government.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON IRAQ'S 'AZIZ MOSCOW VISIT

Views Shevardnadze Talks

JN201428 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (INA) -- Official talks began here today between Iraq and the USSR. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, led the Iraqi side and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze led the Soviet side. In a statement to an INA correspondent, Tariq 'Aziz said that the talks dealt with relations of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the USSR in all fields. He added that the two sides expressed deep satisfaction with the stability and development of these relations.

'Aziz noted that the talks also dealt with the developments in the continuous Iranian aggression against Iraq as well as with the ongoing deliberations at the UN Security Council vis-a-vis the war issue and ending it in a comprehensive way in accordance with international law, the UN Charter, and the UN resolutions.

'Aziz affirmed that an atmosphere of friendship and understanding prevailed during the talks.

The talks, which lasted for approximately 4 hours, were attended by Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister; Polyakov, chief of the Near Eastern Countries Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry; and Sa'd 'Abd al-Majid Faysal, Iraq's ambassador to the USSR.

Friendly Talks With Ryzhkov

PM231459 Moscow ZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Unattributed article: "Talk at the Kremlin"]

[Text] TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received in the Kremlin 20 February Tariq 'Aziz, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Iraq, who is staying in Moscow on a short visit.

Both sides expressed satisfaction with the state of Soviet-Iraqi relations and stressed the importance of the treaty of friendship and cooperation which corresponds to the goals and principles of the U.N. Charter and ideals of peace and progress.

Tariq 'Aziz gave high appraisal to the Soviet Union's constructive foreign policy initiatives. In this connection his attention was drawn to Mikhail Gorbachev's speech at the international forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity" which reflected a new political thinking in relations between states, realistic and constructive approach to the key issues of the present.

The sides expressed grave concern over persisting crisis situations in various regions of the world which are used by imperialist forces as a pretext for interfering in internal affairs of countries situated there and for escalating international tensions.

The Soviet side emphasized that the continuation and deterioration of the military conflict between Iran and Iraq would not only fail to remove contradictions but, on the contrary, would give rise to new still more serious and complex problems. The Soviet Union comes out firmly in favor of putting an immediate end to the conflict, and of achieving political settlement in line with the universally recognized norms of international law. It is prepared to continue to facilitate efforts aimed at eliminating this dangerous seat of armed confrontation. In this respect, good possibilities are provided by the U.N. mechanism which in this case can and must be used to the maximum.

Tariq 'Aziz briefed Nikolay Ryzhkov on the situation in the Iran-Iraq conflict, gave evaluation of the positions of both countries and explained Iraq's approach to the possible ways of ending the war.

The conversation, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, was attended by Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and Iraq's ambassador to the USSR, Sa'd 'abd al-Majid al-Faysal.

Conveys Husayn Message

JN201505 Bagdad INA in Arabic 1440 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 20 Feb (INA) -- Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, in the Kremlin today. In a statement to an INA correspondent, Tariq 'Aziz said that during the meeting he conveyed to Gromyko a verbal message from President Saddam Husayn in which he expressed his greetings and affirmed Iraq's permanent concern to strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation with the USSR.

Tariq 'Aziz added that during the talks he discussed with Andrey Gromyko the situation in the Arab region, the developments in the Iraq-Iran war, and international issues of common interest.

The meeeting was attended by Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister, and the Iraqi ambassador to the USSR.

Gromyko-'Aziz Talks

PM231431 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 February 87 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed article: "Meeting With Iraqi Minister"]

[Text] TASS -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and President of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin 20 February Tariq 'Aziz, member of the Revolutionary Command Council, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Republic of Iraq, who is currently on a visit to the Soviet Union.

On behalf of his country's leadership the guest spelled out Iraq's views on the question of relations with the Soviet Union.

He stressed that his state has pursued and further intends to pursue a policy of maintaining good and friendly relations with the USSR. This position of his country corresponds to the spirit and letter of the Soviet-Iraqi treaty on friendship and cooperation, concluded on 9 April 1972.

As regards concrete trends in relations between the two countries he especially stressed the importance of political links, which have a definite importance. Iraq also highly values the economic links with the Soviet Union and considers that they have good prospects. On behalf of his leadership, Tariq 'Aziz expressed his satisfaction that the Soviet Union also values this sphere of relations and intends, for its behalf, to promote their further development.

On behalf of the Iraqi leadership Tariz 'Aziz pointed out his country's readiness to contribute to putting an end immediately to the Iraq-Iran war. Now it is up to the Iranian side and its leadership to decide. So far Iran has not expressed the wish to put an end to the conflict and seek a peaceful settlement of issues on which the two states are divided. Iraq is prepared to sit down at the negotiating table immediately, if the Iranian side expresses the same readiness.

On behalf of the Soviet Union and the Soviet leadership, Andrey Gromyko emphasized that the USSR views the Soviet-Iraqi relations as being friendly. They have developed over a number of years, and the treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Iraq provided them with an even more solid base. The Soviet Union further intends for its part to maintain these relations and contribute to their enrichment.

The Iraq-Iran war is an unnecessary and senseless carnage. It has already taken a toll of hundreds of thousands of human lives. It is not the battlefield but the table of peaceful negotiations, which, as the Soviet Union is convinced, is the arena in which it is necessary to look for ways for a settlement of differences between Iran and Iraq.

The United Nations Organization has vigorously demanded that. Support for that has been voiced by almost all states of the world. Those who do not heed these voices, who disregard them have a grave responsibility to bear.

The Soviet Union remains attached to the lofty principles of the UN in international affairs. It pursues and intends to continue pursuing only a policy of peace and friendship between the peoples. It was this voice of peace and the need to remove the threat of nuclear catastrophe which sounded from the Kremlin with great force only a few days ago in the speech by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev at his meeting with participants in the international forum For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity.

The power and conviction of that voice was felt by the whole world. The speech was conveyed over the whole planet and met with the widest possible response. The very nature of the socialist social structure and those colossal peaceful actions, with which the Soviet people are busy, are reflected in the struggle of the Soviet Union for peace.

The meeting took place in a relaxed friendly atmosphere.

The meeting was attended by Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, and Sa'D 'Abd al-Majid al-Faysal, Iraqi ambassador to the USSR.

Meets With Arab Envoys

JN211709 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow, 21 Feb (INA) Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met here today with the heads of the Arab diplomatic missions in Moscow. During the meeting, he presented an explanation of the effects of the Iranian aggression on Iraq as well as the Armed Forces' steadfastness and their capability to repulse any new Iranian aggression. He also briefed them on the outcome of his fruitful talks with Soviet officials during his current visit to the USSR.

Airport Departure

LD210838 TASS in English 0834 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 21 TASS -- Tariq 'Aziz, a member of the Revolutionary Command Council, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of Iraq, left the Soviet Union today after a visit here.

He was seen off at the airport by Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR, and other officials.

IRANIAN STAND AGAINST DRA RECONCILIATION VIEWED

NC221124 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1100 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] In the 1 month since the implementation of the Afghan leadership's decision for national reconciliation, more than 20,000 Afghans have returned to their homeland. Reports reaching Kabul indicate that more than two-thirds of the Afghan refugees living in Iran are demanding to be allowed to return to their homeland immediately. Thousands of Afghan families living in Khorasan, Mazandaran, and other Iranian provinces have expressed their readiness and desire to return home. Tens of Afghans apply for visas every day at the Afghan Embassy in Tehran.

Explaining this vast support for the policy of national reconciliation by Afghans at home and abroad, DRA leader Najib has stated: The concept of national reconciliation is in line with the Afghan people's national traditions and spirit. It also fully conforms with the basic, holy principles of Islam, because the word Islam in Arabic means to live in peace [as heard].

Unfortunately, Iranian officials have so far failed to respond to Afghanistan's peace-loving initiative. This is completely inconsistent with their proffered assurances of readiness to respect Islamic traditions. Regarding its decision to declare a cease-fire effective 15 January, the Afghan Government has previously requested the Iranian Government permit a number of airplanes to transport those Afghans who want to return to their homeland. But the Iranian officials have not yet made any arrangements in light of their neighbor's request. Even worse, Iran's leadership, namely those with high-ranking religious titles, held a special consultative meeting with leaders of Afghan counterrevolutionary bands who are ensconced in Iran and issued strict orders to prevent the return of Afghan emigrants to their homeland.

Responding to these orders, provincial functionaries of the Iranian regime are obstructing the Afghans' repatriation. Many of those who strive actively to return to the homeland are persecuted and suppressed, and their properties and money are plundered. Steps have also been taken to close the border. Contingents of the Iranian Army are being used against indigent emigrants who want to return home.

However, no plot, ploy, or machination by the enemies of the policy of national reconciliation can stop this process, which has received broad international support. All the regional states are interested in the peaceful solution of the Afghan situation. Last week, when receiving Iranian Foreign Minister Velayati, who was in our country on an official visit, Soviet officials reiterated this, and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze pointed out that a speedy solution of the situation around Afghanistan conforms with the sincere wishes of the Afghans and the interests of all regional countries. These nations will have acted wisely if they support the efforts of the Government of democratic Afghanistan to achieve national reconciliation.

KUWAITI PAPER CITES REPORTS ON VELAYATI'S TALKS

JN161733 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 15 Feb 87 pp 1, 18

[Excerpt] Moscow -- Arab diplomatic sources in Moscow have revealed to AL-RA'Y AL-'MM details of the talks held by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati with Soviet officials. The sources said Moscow had agreed to Velayati's visit following an urgent request from Tehran and tried to set preconditions for the agenda of the talks to be held with the Iranian foreign minister, but Tehran's insistence that Moscow agree to the visit prevented the fulfillment of Moscow's conditions.

According to the sources, during his talks Velayati tried to persuade Soviet officials to stop supplying Iraq with weapons and to put pressure on it to stop bombing Iranian cities and explained Iran's stand on continuing the war. The sources said the Soviets rejected the Iranian minister's request and told him they were prepared to suspend arms supplies to Iraq and to pressure it to stop bombing Iranian cities if Iran responds to peace initiatives, ends the war, and issues an official communique in that regard. The sources said Velayati rejected the Soviet conditions.

Citing a Soviet Foreign Ministry official, the sources said Velayati proposed several draft agreements on economic cooperation between Iran and the Soviet Union as a way to change Moscow's stand toward Iraq, but Soviet officials ignored discussion of the matter and reaffirmed their rejection of Iran's stand on continuing the war.

The sources said Soviet officials expressed to Velayati their dissatisfaction with the U.S. arms deals with Iran and warned that the continuation of such contacts between Washington and Tehran would prompt Moscow to take a different stand on the war. According to the same sources, the Soviets asserted that the continuation of the war would result in the involvement of the great powers, particularly in view of the massing of U.S. Naval Force in the Gulf.

The sources added: Velayati told Soviet officials that the Iraqi bombardment of Iranian cities has caused great destruction and serious damage to Iranian cities and installations and that it is likely to make Iran turn openly toward the United States. However, the Soviets replied that accepting peace initiatives and ending the war is the only solution, the sources said. [passage omitted]

U.S. EFFORTS TOWARD IRANIAN RELATIONS NOTED

NC211314 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] It was recently announced in Tehran that Washington tried to establish secret contacts with Iranian leaders 2 years ago, long before the Irangate affair. We invite you to listen to remarks by Vladimir Saladyov, a scholar on Iranian affairs, about this issue.

[Begin recording] It is not difficult to understand the Americans' interest in improving relations with the Iranian leadership. Iran enjoys a special place in the U.S. policy of neoglobalism. NEWSWEEK has written that with its population of 45 million, a big and ready army of soldiers and paramilitary troops, and its huge oil and economic resources Iran is of great value despite its present disorder. Iran's extensive border with the Soviet Union and its long coastline in the proximity of other major oil-producing countries endows it with a unique geopolitical situation. Iran's anti-Soviet sentiment following incidents in Afghanistan has become increasingly hostile, creating a favorable situation for the United States.

Washington is hastening to exploit the state of affairs. After being thrown out the door, the Americans are trying to come in through the window. The United States is trying, in any way possible, to reestablish the position it held in Iran before the victory of the 11 February revolution. If during the first years after the revolution hostile anti-Iranian slogans could be heard everywhere in the United States, the situation has changed today. President Reagan considers the establishment and expansion of friendly relations with Iran a necessary prelude to establishing a military pact. The Americans make no secret of the fact that they consider all incidents and developments in this region in light of their own interests. According to conclusions reached by some American observers, the scandal over the secret delivery of arms to Iran has not prevented behind-the-scenes diplomatic activities by the United States aimed at placing Iran completely under its influence.

The U.S. arms have reached their destination and are serving very nicely U.S. imperialism's objectives. These are: protracting the Iran-Iraq war as long as possible to extend the fratricide and -- when the two sides have completely destroyed each other and their resources -- enabling U.S. imperialism to easily regain its positions in Iran and throughout the region. This is the objective pursued by U.S. elements in Iran; and there are facts to prove this. In its 5 November 1986 issue, KEYHAN published a pamphlet distributed in Iranian Government offices.

The newspaper wrote: The pamphlet, entitled "National Security and Strategic Defense," states that since we have a long border with the Soviet Union, to which the Afghan border has now been added; since the Soviet Union has strategic and nuclear weapons matched only by the United States; and since European countries are independent but come under the U.S. nuclear umbrella to confront the Soviet Union, it is necessary, in order to preserve the Islamic Republic, to establish a relationship with a potential military ally who can defend us vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

It is clear that the authors of this pamphlet want to mislead the Iranian people about who their friends and foes are. But they will not succeed, because these Iranians have suffered under the heavy burden of so-called special Iranian-U.S. relations. [end recording]

USS NIMITZ PORT CALL 'COMPROMISES' EGYPT

PM201559 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Feb 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent D. Velikiy dispatch under the rubric "On-the-Spot Reportage": "'Nimitz' on the Alexandria roadstead"]

[Excerpts] Cairo -- A few days ago the EGYPTIAN GAZETTE reported that the U.S. aircraft carrier Nimitz and two escort ships had arrived in the port of Alexandria. However, the EGYPTIAN GAZETTE warned, it would be possible to visit the aircraft carrier only by special invitation... [passage omitted]

Members of its crew of thousands were strolling on the quays of Alexandria. I approached three servicemen with billy clubs on their belts -- it appeared that they were keeping an eye on the behavior of the Nimitz crew ashore -- and asked them a number of questions.

"I would not like to use nuclear weapons," one of the three told me among other things. "But we will have to follow orders, of course..."

Well, orders have to be complied with in all armies. The question is only what orders the U.S. Administration will issue to the aircraft carrier Nimitz and the entire 6th Fleet. There are strong fears in the region, for instance, that the order may be to launch an aggression against Lebanon!

The Middle Eastern press reports that the U.S. Administration essentially no longer makes a secret of its aggressive plans regarding Lebanon. It is merely a question of adjusting U.S. and Israeli actions in the upcoming intervention.

Naturally, people in the region cannot remain indifferent to the qualitatively new exacerbation of the situation. The regional press writes in this context that U.S. aircraft carriers feel very confident in Egyptian waters (another aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk intends to sail to the Eastern Mediterranean via the Suez Canal).

Several points attract attention. The main one is undoubtedly the desire to irreversibly drive Egypt into the orbit of U.S. policy in the Middle East. In its efforts to achieve this, the United States is ensnaring Egypt not only by means of economic debts but also by politically compromising it in the eyes of the Arab world. As the Nimitz has done, for instance...

GORBACHEV'S ACTIVITIES IN LATVIA 18 FEBRUARY

Visit to VEF Plant

LD191009 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 18 Feb 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video coverage of Mikhail Gorbachev's meeting with the party aktiv of Riga's V.I. Lenin State Electrical Engineering Plant on 18 February -- recorded]

[Text] [Gorbachev] I would like to sit and hear what you want to say to me. [Video shows Gorbachev on platform with several officials; rows of people in audience]

[Unidentified male] Yes, we will tell you about the party organization.

[Second unidentified male] Perhaps, Mikhail Sergeyevich...

[First male, interrupting]...About the party committee.

[Second male] Could we tell you about the structure of the party organization?

[Gorbachev] No, that is not necessary. What is the point of that? What one needs to talk about is how life is going in our country, how restructuring is proceeding, what problems there are, what interesting and new things are happening in the party organizations. I would like, first of all, to hear from you what you think about the January plenum, but not only from the point of view of for or against, but also from the point of view of what conclusions you are drawing from it for yourselves here.

[O.K. Tolmadzhev, secretary of the association party committee] In our view, and I think the secretaries of party organizations will agree with me, the January plenum set out all the directions in which we should proceed today. Many of the elements dealt with at the January plenum had been tried here before, to a certain extent. For life itself compelled us to engage in restructuring. It was clear that making the human factor fully effective is perhaps the main thing today.

[Gorbachev] You are not just saying that because it is fashionable, are you? Just to accumulate a few points?

[Tolmadzhev] No! The main thing here, Mikhail Sergeyevich, is to get away from formalism.

[Gorbachev] Have the communists at the meetings changed in any way?

[Tolmadzhev] Activity has been enhanced. Criticism is not an issue among us today: We all criticize. We gathered together the secretaries of the workshop party organizations and said more or less the following: Now, let us have your questions, in a critical way, in person.

[Gorbachev] If things are going to be like that with criticism, so that we start saying: Well, then, go ahead and criticize, come on, think of what you can say, say something critical! This is already just a game of criticism.

What is really needed is a situation, an atmosphere so that this is quite simply the norm, it is life, a natural thing, you understand. For openness [glasnost] and criticism are serious things, comrades. Everyone must understand quite simply that without openness, without criticism of shortcomings, without a search on the basis of this openness and criticism, without showing the urgent problems and bottlenecks, and without taking steps to clear these bottlenecks, there will be no movement, either in the collective at the republican level, or at the country-wide level. That is what it is all about: big issues, big ones. That has helped, has it?

[Tolmadzhev] Perhaps I can help! Mikhail Sergeyevich, we do have criticism here, in fact.

[Gorbachev] No, no, [word indistinct] do not try to help one another out. I can see, after all, that...

[Unidentified male, interrupting] [words indistinct]

[Gorbachev] I can indeed see that before me and before your comrades -- you know him better; I am meeting him for the first time -- is a man who wants to go toward these new trends and demands of the time, and to understand.

[V.Kh. Cherneya, secretary of party committee for the Tranzistor works] To say something more about criticism here. Criticism is not sugar, everyone knows that. We party workers probably must undergo restructuring. On occasion, things like this have happened: I know from my own work, sometimes, you really do hear workers in the collective coming out with very sharp criticism. Well, sometimes (?I reply): There are good reasons for that -- for instance, the failure to supply something to us. Now, probably, we must recast the consciousness of party workers and economic managers such as these, to make them ask themselves: What did you do yourself, first and foremost?

[S.E. Shmite, female secretary of the auxiliary production plant party committee] Work with young people and the Komsomol is a very big problem. (?I cannot say that I have) so few Komsomol members, 100 of them, at the plant. This Komsomol work is [words indistinct]. I consider that this is a social issue on an all-union scale [passage indistinct] Well, I did, indeed, try to make some headway in this work, summoned the secretaries of workshop party organizations and workshop bureaus. We decided to set this work in line a bit thusly. That is, to chat to young people, with bureau members, and at komsomol meetings; to find out what, in the final analysis, they want. I perceive that our Komsomol members are a pretty passive lot. They are all for holding discos, or getting a bus for an outing; but their commitment to production is limited to their performance on the job. They give no more of themselves; they do not behave as we expect from Komsomol members.

[Gorbachev] Yes, altogether it is good that you have got them together and said: Well now, say what you think. Because at the moment the greatest reproach coming from young people is that they say: However and whereever we meet, at whatever level, people immediately start lecturing and reprimanding us. No one has ever listened to what we think.

[Shmite] No, no, we have listened to them. I can even say that I work with the Komsomol at my plant and some headway already has been made.

Our first real Komsomol gatherings have been held by some of our work shops, -- the (?small-scale foundry) shop and the machine shop -- which responded very actively to this. But the idea still has to be prompted in some people -- and even secretaries of party organizations -- that [words indistinct] work needs to be done with young people so that they are directed toward a certain goal.

[V.F. Gavrilyuk] I am a worker at our association, a worker, the secretary of the party organization at the (?small-batch production) shop of the association. I can say that there are no people in the shop, there are no workers in the shop who are not in favor of restructuring. Everyone is in favor of restructuring. Some people are waiting for something, some keep quiet, but there are also those who come and say straightforwardly that this and that must be done. One must...

[Gorbachev, interrupting] So everyone is taking a more active part.

[Gavrilyuk] Yes, people are taking a more active part. There are now few passive people. People want to change something, undertake something. There is talk of criticism. Yes we criticize a lot. Moreover, before going to a party meeting of the higher aktiv, all communists, all workers get together, and we submit all the issues that are worrying people to this party meeting. It is right...

[Gorbachev, interrupting] That is to say, not something that is made up, but what is of concern to people.

[Gavrilyuk] What is of concern to people. But I also want to say that many matters are not being resolved. There was such a case, and I would like to dwell on its specifically. I do not want to say that we only criticize. We make our proposals. We do not just just criticize, we make proposals. [repeats himself] In this case, there is a specific proposal: In 1979 our works was renamed an association, and accordingly the production shops became plants, and (?groups) became shops. It turned out that all dispatchers, technologists, and rate fixers who work directly for the shop are counted into production. When the shop fulfills the plan, they never get a pay increase. To this day, I cannot understand why this is done, since the people are working in the shop and only for the shop, but they are not given a pay raise. It turns out that people who want to do something, to change something, get their knuckles rapped. I think this is unfair. We have made this proposal more than once, but it turns out that things must be changed not only in the shop and in the plant; it turns out that the whole system at the association must be changed.

[Gorbachev] Yes, generally it would not be too bad to sit here, maybe we should have met earlier, Boris Karlovich. Here we are: We must restructure ourselves, too. But even what little we have managed to say to each other is very symptomatic. I will talk about this. This is what I would like to talk about. Well, above all, I long have been meaning to come to Latvia, and now it has happened. I have a great desire -- insofar as it is possible in this short period, on this short working visit -- to get to know it better, to find out more, to see with my own eyes, to hear and exchange opinions, and to say something to people.

I am getting great satisfaction from my visit, from meetings and from my contacts. Do you know why? I see enormous interest in what is going on, based on the decisions of the congress and the January plenum; based on our policy directed at accelerating the socioeconomic development of the country, the policy of glasnost, of openness [otkrytost] of democracy. This is meeting with great interest among the people, sincere interest.

For some reson I am again asked the question: Mikhail Sergeyevich, keep going and do not give way, or do you not have any doubts that it has gathered strength and that it has taken root, and that is there no one who will manage to unsettle this policy? We believe, especially following the January plenum -- this is their answer -- that this line on restructuring will continue. But you must know that far from everyone has joined in the restructuring. There you are, comrades, the first thing you have to hear.

The last two speeches, from the workplaces, are interesting. They confirm that, indeed, there is no one who could object to restructuring -- I should just rephrase that: There probably are, just the same, because some have been stung by restructuring. As the saying goes, we have trodden on the painful corn, on some comforts, and on some mechanisms nicely worked out for an easy life. He was quite happy with his present life. He is stung, but he sees that since all working people, the whole population is for restructuring and for renovation, so he keeps quite.

Just the same, it is a very important conclusion, that the country is for restructuring. It is important, indeed, that the people are more active, bolder. It turns out that the people have many proposals. There, the speeches -- all those today speak of this. Interesting proposals. Interesting proposals. Particularly how to build that work -- from life itself. I would put it this way: We, of course, did not hope that such an enormous business as restructuring and the renovation of all spheres of life in our society would be a short-term campaign. Above all, we need somehow to become conscious, to understand that this restructuring is vital, that without it we cannot resolve the new tasks and advance our society to new bounds, to a new qualitative state. We need changes in the economy. We see very big gaps and omissions in the social sphere; we see that in the spiritual sphere there are serious omissions; and in the ideological sphere, too, I suppose. All this needs to be pondered properly and then resolved.

Furthermore, for the most part we all basically understand what needs to be done, but in a specific collective, in a specific town or party organization, this takes on its own specific forms. That is the task of the party aktiv, for those cadres who work here in the labor collectives. So that is the first impression.

I have brought away from my meetings, from talking and asking for opinions on the January plenum, and reactions to the plenum, that the support is real, open, and sincere. That is very important; that is the main thing. Because, when all is said and done, that is the foundation on which the restructuring will take place -- the thoughts and the actions of people. That is the first thing. The second thing is that I, of course, have known VEF for a long time. We particularly approved of your initiative on the system of providing service to the working people and the workers of the labor collective. That initiative received the approval of the Central Committee and was recommended to the whole country as a very good experience. I have felt that the VEF, too, is at a turning point. I have data.

Now you have reched a stage in which you should undergo transformation, in terms of the technological level, design, everything, and in the technology and equipment for resolving tasks. Now it is as though you are going through a factory bay; on the right is new technology; on the left, well, they are still knitting nets like the fishermen on the shores of the Gulf of Riga in the good old days. The technical level, the technical base of the enterprise needs to be changed on the basis of the introduction both of new machinery and new technology. That, in the first place, changes the nature of labor -- and that is important -- in the social sense. Without new machinery and technology there is no solving the question of how to move on to new articles; there is no solving this. So I would like to approve your plans and programs.

You have a few bottlenecks here, and the director and I have agreed that he will name these problems, he will give me a reminder and we will have a look and maybe support you, taking into account that your contribution is a large one. I have felt here just how important is now the responsibility of collectives associated with each other by supplying each other and this is particularly senstitve for your works. First of all, you have to use new mechanisms that are being given to you now; the state acceptance service gives you the opportunity of bringing strongly into play such a method, a mechanism, as incoming control over all that comes in from your suppliers and of having a powerful effect on them. That is the first thing. Second, at the ministerial level, you must think over these links to make them more reliable. It seems that the year is passing and the allocation of funds has not yet been resolved regarding certain matters, but these are for items that are interdependent.

It is a great pity that you fell behind in January. You came unstuck. We drew to the Politburo's attention -- and kept awaiting the results for January -- that certain industries had had a very marked effect on the whole economy, particularly machine building. First, metallurgy: Although it fulfilled the plan it did not fulfill the assortment plan. It did not produce those metals of the necessary quality or assortment. Chemicals -- that is also rubber technology, plastics -- also failed to resolve these matters. One might say that the bearings industry really (?let us down)! Well, there are a few other less significant industries that had a negative effect on the plan. I think steps now are being taken through ministerial channels, through association channels and that order will be improved and set right here. But you have to set up active links with your own suppliers.

So you are going over to a new model, to a new generation: a competitive item. I have seen it and it has good prospects. But now you should do it this way: When you are just at the design stage, you must involve everyone with this, so that they can do their job. Otherwise, if you do not get in touch with them now, you will be offering certain items and will be ready yourselves, but your suppliers will not be ready, or will send you poor-quality complementary parts. Again, this will reduce quality, reliability, and so on. That already has been the case in practice. So you must cooperate -- cooperate using the new instructions and the new economic mechanism.

Thus, we ultimately should come to the point where collectives cooperate with each other, having the long-term outlook mapped out by the state planning committee and your industry headquarters. Technological policy must be determined by the industry, taking into account world trends; and in other respects, including in science, the collective should operate and cooperate with the suppliers. That is what is desired.

Comrades, there is much to be changed on the basis of the law on enterprises -- financial automony, self-financing, self-recouping, the election of cadres, planning -- so that it might be realistic, really realistic and not just, as you said, the collective taking part in planning, but the collective being acquainted with the draft plan being presented. These are different things. We must put everything in its place. It is precisely through these very mechanisms, through the new economic mechanism, through elections, through the participation of people, that we must move democracy forward in the work place. This is a most important area. If we really involve the people, we can solve it.

I was most disturbed by the speech by the secretary of your party organization, what was your name? [Unidentified voice says the name Gavrilyuk] Comrade Gavrilyuk.

Indeed, he said most interestingly: One goes to a meeting, just as he has come here, and consults the communists and comrades over what is to be said, if anyone has a problem. They have a discussion, and with the view of the collective he goes to the meeting. He has said it, said it once, said it twice, and everything stays the same. That is the first thing; it is not good. Second, the rare guests, that is what I am talking about, our leading cadres sitting in their offices. They should have the time to think everything over, to solve things, because if a director is to go around the workshops and not solve things concerning supplies and the creation of preconditions for production, then he is not worth much. Still, the workers have their tasks to cope with; the foremen and workshop chiefs have their tasks to perform; and the directors have their own tasks. That is also most vital, but the director, engineer, and other leading cadres are not going to understand and catch problems in time that come to a head if they are only going to judge by statistics.

I was very pleased by this No 1 Shop of yours -- the combine that provides services and solves social issues. I was shown what is available to the VEF today from the point of view preschool institutions, recreation, sports facilities, and so on. There are problems, especially with accommodation; the director reported about this too.

I have found the VEF at a crucial stage, and I would like you to overcome these difficulties of this crucial stage and emerge on the world market, and that would enjoy great demand and high appraisal on the domestic market.

Allow me to wish you to resolve this task; I wish you all health and success in your great affairs. [applause]

Further on Meeting With Aktiv

LD191355 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Excerpt] In the VEF workshops Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev chatted with workers about their working and living conditions and the transfer over to two-shift working. Impressions about his visit to VEF formed the basis of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's conversation with the party aktiv of the enterprise, and with secretaries of the primary party organizations.

[Gorbachev] I would like to sit here and listen to what you want to say to me: How life is going with us, how restructuring is unfolding, what the problems are, what it rests on, you and me, or...

[Unidentified man] There are many problems.

[Gorbachev] ...About life -- how it is, what interesting and new things are happening in the party organizations. I will put the question even more specifically: The January plenum has been held. Comrades, this is a very important stage in the development of our line of acceleration, in the development of restructuring. I would say that one can even consider that this is how we worked before the January plenum, and now we are working after the January plenum. There should be considerable changes. This is my request: Talk as you want, without any accounts, or self-account -- it will be briefer and from the heart.

[Unidentified man] I shall, of course, be talking about the work of the party organization at our own association. We have many of the elements that were discussed at the January plenum already and we already had tried them out to some extent before that.

Because life itself has compelled us to engage in the restructuring, we had to bring into play powerful levers such as democratization, that is, broad involvement of labor collectives in the management of production and financial autonomy. Already we had been practising elections at the level of foremen and senior foremen of labor collectives. Last year alone we had 100 of these leaders elected. From 1 March we have a resolution coming into force on the election of a section chief and a production chief, on a head of section and a head of workshop, and we will continue consistently.

[Gorbachev] This is not for fashion, not for brownie points?

[Unidentified man] The main thing here, Mikhail Sergeyevich, is to get away from formalism. I would also like to say that we now have in operation a sufficiently well-balanced system of accountability of economic leaders, and this began before the labor collectives. This began with an account from the general director to a conference of the labor collective at the start of December last year. Accounts to their labor collectives have been given by virtually all levels of economic managers. In addition, naturally, the party organizations, where there are workshop party secretaries -- we have five party committees -- listen to accounts from communists in fulfilment of the requirements of the rules on the execution of their official duties.

This system of accounting obviously is kept track of closely, of course, and here one has to say straight out: Not everywhere, of course, is there a principled approach, and the practical account depends first and foremost on how it is prepared.

[Gorbachev] Yes, the meetings have changed somewhat, the communists have started to play some sort...

[Unidentified man] Activity has increased, but understand, Mikhail Sergeyevich, in my view there is something of a contradiction here. Today we have no question about criticism. We all make criticisms, everyone has learned to criticize, all can see what needs to be criticized and this is very, very good. In my view, however, as far as the constructiveness of this criticism is concerned, the concept is somewhat [word indistinct].

[Gorbachev] So let us begin criticizing. But was there not any interest at these party meetings?

[Unidentified man] We did even more, Mikhail Sergeyevich. We gathered together the secretaries of workshop party organizations and said more or less the following: So, the sacked staff of the party committee were warned in advance, 2 weeks before, let us [word indistinct] your questions critically, in person, [words indistinct] staff of the party committee. All in all, we agreed following this that we would talk; we agreed to hold this kind of thing periodically. We are not afraid of criticism; we deserve criticism in some things, we know that [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] If that is how things are to be with criticism, then it is only playing at criticism. I must tell you that you must come to a meeting or gathering and put the question plainly: Now comrades, today I, or we, want to exchange opinions with you at the party committee on this or that issue. People can say (?how things are) and what the roots of this or that phenomenon are. Then this is truly talk among people who are concerned about the common cause, about everything. For the whole intent, the support and basis for restructuring, is the position people adopt, a more vigorous one, political, lively, a civically aware position. That is the foundation. If people now are going to be disappointed again, and are not going to believe that this is forever, permanently, for a long time, then this will be a huge loss, a huge blow against the whole cause.

We must look at life with our eyes open -- in the labor collective, in the rayon, in the town. We must analyze it, look at what really is going on. On the basis of this honest analysis we must see what is good, what is successful, what needs supporting and even can be recommended for others, and what needs to be combated. It is all simple; all this is simple. This simplicity must become a norm of our life and work. In general, you are correct in expressing the idea that we must be realisitc and must busy ourselves with practical affairs. They are there, in the economic sphere, in the sphere of discipline, in the sphere of people's attitudes toward affairs, in the sphere of new technology, you understand, of professional training, of organization of affairs; (Beyond that, take the town); then there is transport, the trade sphere, how medical care is working, and there is work to be done in all these areas. Very well, now what do you have to say regarding the Central Committee?

[Unidentified man] The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee? [laughter]

[Gorbachev] The CPSU Central Committee.

[Unidentified man] Mikhail Sergeyevich, in talking with people you have already seen how they [word indistinct] you in the Central Committee, what the satisfaction was, in conversations and contacts. I cannot add anything to that. People fully support the Central Committee and the Politburo. I would like to assure you, Mikhail Sergeyevich, that following your visit we will have not only added encouragement and optimism, but also confidence in what we are doing.

[Gorbachev] Good. [passage omitted]

Talk With VEF Worker

PM191605 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Feb 87 First Edition p 1

[Report by special correspondents O. Meshkov, A. Chernyak, and G. Yastrebtsov: "Restructuring as Performed by the People -- M.S. Gorbachev in Latvia"]

[Excerpts] Riga -- On 18 February CPSU Central Committee General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev visited the shops of the Riga VEF Production Association named for V.I. Lenin. [passage omitted]

The CPSU Central Committee general secretary visited the coil section in the assembly shop. [passage omitted]

M.S. Gorbachev approached fitter Vladimir Storozhuk.

M.S. Gorbachev: Tell me, in simple language, what do you think of state acceptance?

V.V. Storozhuk: Well, you see, at first it was a bit strange, you might say, but now it is settling down nicely because we have started to adopt a more responsible approach. We know that demand has risen. If I work badly I will not get what is due to me... So I am trying...

M.S. Gorbachev: How come you used to get what was not due to you, money I mean?

V.V. Storozhuk: Simply, that was the system set up a long time ago...

M.S. Gorbachev: I am not accusing you. It is not your doing.

V.V. Storozhuk: If we establish a smooth operation, we will get quality and productivity.

M.S. Gorbachev: Yes, without a smooth operation there will be no quality. If you produce 40-50 percent of the output in the last 10 days, you will not get anything good out of it. What other bottlenecks have come to light during the operation of the technical control department and state acceptance? Any weak spots? I mean, you have worked through Janaury, and February is nearly over, where are the bottlenecks?

V.V. Storozhuk: The bottlenecks are in the supply of spares and parts which we get from our own plant and others...[passage omitted]

Gorbachev Talks With Workers

LD190256 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 18 Feb 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] This morning Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev visited the VEF Production Association [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] Tell me, how do the foremen here feel? We have been adopting a decision on the foremen, as it were. How has it affected your position, your legal and material position?

[Unidentified woman] It has not affected our material position yet. [passage omitted including indistinct passage]

[Gorbachev] I will put this question to you: If nothing happens here, if there are no changes from the point of view of equipment and you have no designs planned, how can better equipment be provided, for the first shift, or for the first and second shifts? You have not distributed it artificially?

[Unidentified woman] No. We are selecting people and expanding.

[Gorbachev] Ah, you are expanding. Does it not happen now that the first shift is 50-60 percent full?

[Unidentified woman] No, 100 percent.

[Gorbachev] One hundred percent?

[Unidentified woman] The second one is still not full. I work on the second shift; there is basically [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] Do you know already that we have adopted a decision on how to produce incentives for people working on a second or evening shift, a night shift?

[Unidentified woman] Yes, we have heard.

[Gorbachev] We shall pay an additional 20 percent for the second shift and 40 percent for a night shift. Of course, the (?town) must help in this. Municipal transport, children's establishments, commerce -- everything should be coordinated. What questions are there for me?

[Unidentified woman] No questions. All the people are in a militant mood. It is what we expected from this structuring, well, one can sense what this is for, and in general, people now feel that they will be listened to more attentively. The human factor has been revived, and of course, this produces a more assertive approach...

[Gorbachev, interrupting] The foremen will work; the foremen will work. [repeats himself] So (?wait till the voting starts). We will start to elect. [Gorbachev shakes hands with woman] Congratulations! Well, all the best!

[Video shows Gorbachev in close-up shot with members of the VEF staff gathered closely around him. Next, he moves over to another part of the workshop where he stops to greet some of the work force.]

[Gorbachev] You are workers, are you not?

[Unidentified man] Of course.

[Gorbachev] What sort of mood are you in, in your lives?

[Unidentified man] A fine mood! You can see how people have been waiting for you, are welcoming you, so that the management and the workers, and the administrative apparatus are all together in a single entity.

[Gorbachev] Thank you. I tell you: This is the main thing that I have been told, because we now are doing a great deal in the country, not only to open the way forward for people, but also to put more demands on them. Of course, we want very much for all our people to understand this. Do not think: This is not necessary for me, but just for someone else. It is necessary for all of us. We have approached the stage when many things must be done in a different way. Of course, this requires intensive effort, creative work, and even firmness, both at the center and in the labor collective, and in the family, too -- everywhere, thoughout society. Therefore it is very important that we preserve mutual understanding at these turning points. You have seen one turning point -- the state acceptance system has reached you in earnest. [laughter] Has control got to the men [words indistinct], so to speak? [laughter]

[Unidentified man] Sixty-four percent of us are women [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] I will tell you, taking into account activeness and public activity, women have reached the point where a woman's soviet is being created in the country. We must ensure that women do not draw a huge burden upon themselves, more than men; I tell you frankly, because at work they have their tasks to perform as well as at home, so to speak, but not everywhere. In the main, men do help in the modern family. I wish you all the best, comrades! [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Video shows Gorbachev approaching his car. Gorbachev next is shown speaking to a group of people outside.]

[Unidentified man] Are we really getting carried away now by the private sector? Would it not be better to put things right in the state sphere? Could I ask such a question?

[Gorbachev] I will reply with pleasure. You know, it only seems a private sector at first sight. We have gotten carried away in a fashion. So what are we doing? Indeed, we have gone so far -- but what kind of private sector? The individual sector, the collective farmer, [word indistinct] and the collective farmer, you understand, went to town to get his provisions.

[Unidentified persons] Yes, that is correct.

[Gorbachev] What do you think, is that normal?

[Unidentified persons] No, it is not normal. [passage omitted]

[Gorbachev] [words indistinct] We have the resources. We have everything. We are now letting the kolkhoz consolidate the land. We are providing the tractors, seeds and conditions for work. As soon as they go over to contracting, then they give up a minimum one-third, and sometimes one-half of the machinery. Why? They begin to think about it -- I will do this in the evening and that in the morning. What comes of it? Is our land capitalist land? It is the kolkhoz that provides the fuel and lubricants, as well as the seeds. It keeps an interest. [words indistinct] You will get such a harvest, then you will receive such payment. What has happened now is that once the norm has been produced, what of the harvest beyond the norm? Do you understand? Why are we afraid? We are afraid of ourselves; we are completely distrustful toward whoever has been born under Soviet power, who knows no other power or system, who knows no other economic system. You know, generally speaking, I do not think that whatever we do will go smoothly and faultlessly -- there probably will be mistakes. [passage omitted]

Talks With Jurmala Inhabitants

LD181622 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Text] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today continues to familiarize himself with the life of Riga and Jurmala. Listen to Comrade Gorbachev's conversation with the inhabitants of Jurmala, held on the streets.

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] You have had time to think about the January plenum. What is your attitude?

[Unidentified persons] Good. Positive.

[Gorbachev] Well, the Janaury plenum just happens to be the plenum that provides an answer to the question: Are we to retreat, or are we not to retreat? Are we to retreat?

[Unidentified persons] No, no.

[Gorbachev] We have already begun to lag behind a bit, but we are a country that has at its disposal everything to get going soundly. Our people -- if you take our people, will stand up to it, they will stand up to it ... [repeats himself]

[Unidentified woman, interrupting] They will stand up to it, of course.

[Gorbachev] They certainly will stand up to it. When the matter pertains to the country and is of concern to everyone, then the people will stand up to it.

I mean, we have simply lost time. Now it is clear: We have drawn up a line, too, since it is essential to work out where we want to go and what we want to do. Look how the social sphere has come to lag behind. Things turned out in such a way that we were pushing production. However, all this social, as the scientists call it, infrastructure -- housing; social, cultural and consumer affairs; the services sphere -- all these things were lagging behind, lagging behind, lagging behind. [repeats himself] Look: Production potential is there, but there are no people to work.

[Unidentified man] Quality, too, was dealt with only by talking.

[Gorbachev] Yes, indeed, the question of quality. Well, in the first place everyone in society is already fed up with this. No one wants to reconcile himeself with this, but everyone must understand: OK, you make a tractor; it will come to a collective farm. There is another matter as well: You go to a shop and get a television set. You have only just switched it on when everything starts going haywire. The third person, you know, got this, the fourth got that, and so forth. Consequently, everyone must work solidly and there is nowhere to dodge, for this is the kind of stage we have reached. After all, they already have begun, you know, the quality mark. We start checking and no mark should be given, it should be taken away. Without quality, we shall not get on, we shall not get on. [repeats himself] Quantity is not needed here, for it all -- resources and labor -- comes to nothing. Then why do we get up in the morning, hurry and go to work? Do we work so that all this can subsequently turn into rubbish?

Listen, we cannot go on like this! Hence, this tightening of the screw of ours is, of course, not easy, no question about it. We are, indeed, aware that it exerts influence on the workers, engineers and designers alike, on everyone. But, what can you do?

The position of the working class gave us much joy. People wrote very many letters. They say their conscience does not allow them to receive money for defective goods. Such are our people, you understand? They were stung to the quick, their families were stung to the quick. We are indeed aware of all this, but, look...

[Unidentified man interrupts] Mikhail Sergeyevich, we are getting too carried away by the private sector; would it not be better to set thing to rights in the state sphere?

[Gorbachev] You know, it only seems a private sector at first sight. What kind of private sector? The individual sector, the collective farmer, (?collapsed), and, you understand, the collective farmer went to town to get provisions.

[Unidentified persons] Yes, yes. Correct.

[Gorbachev] What do you think, is this normal?

[Unidentified persons] No way. No, not normal.

[Unidentified man] If earlier the collective farmer took things to the market, now he goes there himself...

[Gorbachev, interrupting] Now he goes there himself!

[Unidentified persons] Yes, yes.

[Gorbachev] Just look, in Moscow and in all the surrounding oblasts, especially on the eve of holidays, all peasants (?do that).

[Unidentified woman] Yes.

[Gorbachev] They stopped working at it; the peasant stopped working in his garden, with his cattle. Well, listen, what kind of peasants are they?

[Unidentified woman] [Words indistinct]

[Gorbachev] I will tell you: He took a look at what things are like with our friends, our friends. [repeats himself] Incidentally, you know, we also have eliminated producer cooperatives. We thought it was good. Now, it turns out that major industry cannot be bothered with small items, whatever they might be; while there are no producer cooperatives!

Well, one of our workers arrived in one of our Baltic republics. Where from? From Chelyabinsk, from an oblast with a metallurgical industry. He writes a letter: Mikhail Sergeyevich, I report: I am resting well; services here are good; I am feeling good, and the main thing is, he says, I have already dispatched 5 kilograms of nails. [audience laughs]

[Gorbachev] A man dispatches nails from one of the Baltic republics, so that he may have them at home. Where? To Chelyabinsk Oblast, which is the forge of metal!

Or something else: An enterprise is working; it produces waste, and everything is thrown away. Now, this enterprise -- we have been told this at the radio technical works -- they set up a cooperative, based on this waste. Moreover, it is a cooperative for all those who are no longer working at the enterprise, who are retired. They joined forces together, and using this waste, they make parts for this works. This means we are making use of both the resources and the people; in their free time, people who are still able to work are working.

And where do you overhaul your flats, and how?

[Unidentified woman] By ourselves, by ourselves.

[Gorbachev] Tell me honestly!

[Unidentified woman] By ourselves, by ourselves!

[Gorbachev] Where do you get concrete from?

[Unidentified woman] Some get it here, others there.

[Gorbachev] And paint?

[Unidentified persons] Wherever you can, [Gorbachev] A block of buildings around a house, while a large house is under construction, or is overhauled.

[Unidentified persons] Yes, yes.

[Gorbachev] This means that the working man is stealing. He sells to another working man, or someone else and...

Listen, now. It is necessary to set up repair bases. We do not say private tradesmen, working on hire. No, there will be no hiring with us; no one will exploit anyone. However, if a cooperative gets together -- is that private trading or not? A cooperative -- the very same cooperative for which Lenin fought. In the first place, a cooperative receives its resources under state control. Our system is so strong just now with its centralization that, should some smart fellow come along, he will quickly be squashed. A lot of things get squashed. No one wants to busy himself with such things. All the decisions have been taken, but nobody wants to do this. As a rule, it should be the leading cadres, the apparatus, which advances this. But the apparatus? Well, it is extra bother. The fact that it is a necessity, that is sort of [word indistinct]. Well, so what? Let it be a necessity.

Therefore, I tell you straight: The foundations, all the main things will remain. Enterprises, building sites, collective farms, state farms -- that will be, probably, 90... [Gorbachev corrects himself] Just now it is almost all 100 percent. If we break some off, then it might be around 95 percent. Five or seven percnt, if that, will be produced by this individual activity. There, yesterday, we said that craftsmen working at home -- in light industry, in local industry, craftsmen at home -- knit sweaters and so on. Seventeen percent. Who are these craftsmen at home? Former workers from an enterprise who are on a pension. They sit with the grandchildren and knit. What is nonsocialist in that? A link by contract with a socialist enterprise. What sort of private worker is that? Here the whole thing is about boundaries within limits, within size.

So, just now in the kolkhozes, we are assigning land, giving tractors, seeds and conditions of the contract. It is working. I was in Krasnodar -- you remember, I named a family farm? On that kolkhoz in Krasnodar, the yield across the collective farm was 23 quintals, but that family has grown a yield of 37 quintals. Just listen! Thirteen quintals. The struggle for an increase in yield of that size has been going on for 10-15 years. In one year, on the very same land with the same rain -- why? A peasant is attached to the land. He knows and understands everything and it turns out that he refuses superfluous machinery that is not needed.

Then [word indistinct] everything: Give us more, give us more -- all this adds to production costs, and we keep bankrupting the state. As soon as they go over to contracting, they give up a minimum of a third, and sometimes half, the machinery. Why. They begin to think about it -- I will do this (?in the evening), and that in the morning.

[Unidentified man] [Word indistinct] on the same land.

[Laughter]

[Gorbachev] Well, that is another result. What comes of it? Is our land a capitalist? It is the kolkhoz that provides the machinery, the kolkhoz that provides the fuel and lubricants, and the seeds. It keeps an interest. [Words indistinct] you will get such a harvest, then you will receive such payment. But what has happened now is that once the norm has been produced, what is the harvest beyond this norm? You understand?

Why are we afraid? We are afraid of ourselves and we are completely untrusting toward our person who has been born under Soviet power, who knows no other power or system, who knows no other economic state.

[Unidentified woman] It is good that in Siberia we have permitted... Well, we did not have enough household plots. Perhaps everyone could be involved in market gardening?

[Gorbachev] When I was engaged in these matters in the country, it turned out that 22 million of our people like to mess about with [word indistinct] and so on in the garden plot. However, we looked into it and it was all going on in a disorganized way. Then came the question that we had to give people more; they just kept asking, especially the workers. We started looking into it, and it turned out that they wanted to be given more land right away. It turned out that there was no supply of sheds and building materials. So we decided to provide a million garden and market-garden plots, because we have enough for a million. We will ensure a supply of sheds, building materials, cememt, and so on. We will (?keep going) until we meet this end.

[Unidentified woman] Now everything has come into the shops. For example, already you can buy production wastes, when before it was burned, simply burned.

[Gorbachev] That is right; that is right. [repeats himself] In Belorussia they have created a whole system of stores, and that is where the odd bits of wire, tin, and metal go. They are favorite places. The bits are of no use in the national economy, but have a look, travel through Siberia and the East where there are new construction sites, and you will understand that it is all to hand there. This is our wealth, which used to be (?smashed up). [Word indistinct] for the whole economy, the whole economy. They have started using less oil, less metal, and less everything else. So we have to be in charge of it, the proprietors. You know, generally speaking, I do not think that whatever we do will go smoothly and faultlessly, that is my opinion. There are going to be slips as well. Can it be that there are none?

[Unidentified woman] Of course, of course.

[Unidentified man] No, it cannot.

[Gorbachev] Right, it cannot be, but in principle the following has been selected above all as the main guideline: First, it is that you cannot do without, so to speak, scientific-technical progress; second, human commitment, both political and moral, so a person will look forward to coming to work -- to create the appropriate atmosphere, you see, that is why we say democracy. Indeed, it is a disgrace: Say we come to a production shop and start imposing things on people. They know everything about everyone themselves and see through everyone, so to speak. Or, let us say, someone has been working for 5-10 years and it comes to the point when we can see it that he is not coping, that he is already exhausted, but he is still retained until someone at the top notices it. But people could see that the whole way through, so why not give them the oppotunity to discuss such things?

There is the same situation in the soviets and in party bodies. Listen, after all, whoever it is that they elect, they are all our Soviet people. I believe that as soon as that kind of movement starts, the people will see for themselves what kind of leaders they need, you see. That is why we are transferring it onto the tracks of... [changes thought] See for yourselves and make decisions.

[Unidentified women] Especially in kolkhozes!

[Gorbachev] You know everything yourselves, after all. A question arises...

[Unidentified woman, interrupting] You talked about voting yesterday, that is easy. It would be really good if all of it were introduced. When we voted, who was it that we voted for?

[Gorbachev] It is precisely what is going to happen. Did you pay attention, in the law on enterprise, everything that I said is already there -- elections of team leaders, and shop leaders, directors, and the council -- everything is there already, in the draft. Now we are preparing changes in the electoral system.

[Unidentified women] That is very good.

[Gorbachev] We shall try as early as this year. In the elections to soviets of people's deputies, we will have an experiment, so that by the end of the year we could accumulate enough experience for drafting a new law on the electoral system. Let them nominate 3, 4, 5 or 10 people. Let them nominate. Let people think.

[Unidentified persons] Of course, that is right, even if someone is not elected.

[Gorbachev] Even if someone is not elected, let him think why he was not elected, let those who nominated him think why he was not elected. What is wrong with that? I do not see anything wrong. Whatever way you look at it, we win. When working people feel that there is no control, it gives rise to appanage princes, who believe that because they are in the chair, they are the rulers, and that they are invulnerable. As regards those whose conscience is bloated with fat, so to speak, that is worst of all. That is why everything has to be turned around.

[Unidentified persons] Goodbye.

Visit to Domskiy Cathedral

LD182241 [Editorial report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1530 GMT on 18 February in its "Vremya" newscast carries a 1-minute video report on the visit to Riga's Domskiy Cathedral by Mikhail and Raisa Gorbachev. The announcer recounts the history of Domskiy Cathedral, which is now a concert hall. The video shows the Gorbachevs and their entourage standing outside the cathedral building, where a woman is speaking to them. The next shot shows the interior of the cathedral and the large organ. The Gorbachevs then are shown seated at the front of the cathedral, holding pamphlets and listening to organ music. The report closes with shots of the inside of the cathedral.

Tour of Adazhi Kolkhoz

LD191047 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 18 Feb 87

[Report on 18 February visit to Latvia by CPSU General Secretary M.S. Gorbachev, presented by unidentified correspondent; all members of crowd unidentified]

[Text] This afternoon Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev arrived at the agro-firm [agrofirma] of the Adazhi Kolkhoz located in suburban Rizhskiy Rayon. Latvia was one of the first republics in the country where such agro-firms began to be set up on the basis of front-ranking kolkhozes and sovkhozes that have joined forces with processing industry enterprises. Adazhi is a highly mechanized kolkhoz with a strong main and subsidiary econony. Thanks to the improvement of the economic mechanism and the scientific organization of labor, there is quite a high level of production here.

Intrafirm financial autonomy has been introduced fully. Here are some of the farm indices. In the past year, the yield of grain crops has been between 40 and 53 quintals of grain per hectare on different fields. The potato yield has been up to 300 quintals. Milk yields have been between 4,400 and 7,000 kg.

Another important factor is that with each passing year the prime cost of the farm's produce has been reduced. At the moment the agro-firm is involved in the processing of potato products. It produces drinks from chicory; it makes high-quality bread and canned and bottled vegetables, and processes animal husbandry produce. In the immediate future it is planned to expand considerably the production of semiprocessed vegetable products, various spices, and other produce. An enormous construction program is being implemented in the agro-firm; what is more, the most up-to-date building designs are used.

Much care is shown here for families. Here is just one example: Every woman with children of pre-school age can, on request, obtain work to do at home. The kolkhoz has swimming pools; one for sports, and another for children. When you look at this splendid settlement, it really is a genuine agricultural town.

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev began his visit to the Adazhi Agro-firm with a look at the "Brilliant" animal husbandry complex.

[Gorbachev] Tell me, this problem of haylage -- hay and silage -- with all this debate, these experiments and all the trials, what point have we reached?

[Man] We need hay. We must go for both hay and haylage in percentage terms. If the haylage we prepare is of very good quality, there will be milk.

[Gorbachev] Do the drying facilities exist now for hay? Have you found the means? Do you remember what your forefathers used to do? You have all the equipment here.

[Man] Yes, of course.

[Gorbachev] I like the fact that you have standards here.

[Woman] We do have standards.

[Gorbachev] Animal husbandry is generally an indicator of whether a farm maintains standards, whether anyone is capable of working [words indistinct]. This dairy complex shows everything at once.

[Man] It is like a mirror.

[Gorbachev] Everything is here -- the results of crop growing; the results of animal husbandry, plant, and animal breeding, working methods, and the personnel situation -- everything.

[Reporter] Here at the complex, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was briefed by Hero of Socialist Labor Alberts Kauls, chairman of the agro-firm of the Adazhi Kolkhoz; and Zigmunts Shtalberks, chief of the complex. On one of the main streets of the Adazhi Kolkhoz settlement, Mikhail Sergeyevich chatted with its residents.

[Gorbachev] Well, there still are problems, no doubt. When I was at the complex I heard that building work was still under way; the kolkhoz was helping. What about law and order, after the inauguration of the struggle against drinking? Has the struggle reached here?

[Women's voices] Yes, it has.

[Gorbachev] What about you men? Is life still bearable?

[Men's voices] Yes, yes.

[Gorbachev] There you are! I will not ask the women! [laughter] Women were the principal force in this struggle. Women even criticized me in many places. Mikhail Sergeyevich, they said, why have you not introduced prohibition? So I say, why do you not start with your own family?

[Woman] Well (?I already have such a) prohibition. [laughter] There is in many families, I think.

[Gorbachev] Well, then, if a family reaches such a decision let them solve it. If that is the decision in a settlement, let them arrange it, but only at a meeting not in an office, not in a consulting room. Everything must be solved in a good way. So, it is better to have law and order, is it not? It is better on the streets, better in the home. Children can go fishing when there is time. But, yes, please...

[Man interrupts] Mikhail Sergeyevich, you were saying that we need the young people, were you not?

[Gorbachev] In many respects, I look upon our young people very optimistically. In the first place, I am optimistic, not simply because... [changes thought] You know, we love to say, generally speaking, young people are OK; or the reverse, well, as young people we were better! I do not think it is one thing or the other. What is good is that young people now are becoming more aware of their position as citizens. Our life has improved and changed so much, and each family so cherished their children after the war, especially those who survived. (?So we do not want to go back to those sort of losses). There is no need; we have worked long enough; we have had a hard time, some say. Children are growing up -- at 18 years of age they are healthy and chopping down trees! You understand, we just are not getting them involved in things. That is not normal. I remember these were difficult times.

I worked actively at the age of 13 -- there was a lot on my shoulders -- and from the age of 15 I already was working on a combine harvester. I do not know, I do not think it did me any harm, perhaps that created the main thing in me. So young people should be involved, and be involved earlier.

[Woman] Mikhail Sergeyevich, my mother worked on a kolkhoz all her life, [words indistinct].

[Gorbachev] That is good. You probably have sensed that we want it like this: There are nearly 55 million pensioners in the country. Several million of them are continuing to work; several million have left work. Previously, they worked at clothing enterprises, or somewhere on a kolkhoz or sovkhoz, or in some factory or other. They even could have run some business. First, have a contract in their own enterprise, and continue to take part, fulfilling orders. There are many such problems that must be resolved, getting all the people to take part through the cooperatives, through work at home, through individual activity. I want, in particular, to say that we are encouraging the rural population to participate in supplementing the breeding of livestock produce. We welcome this in every way, and advise all our managers, directors and chairmen to render assistance in terms of providing young animals for raising and whatever feed is required, so that the family can do it for itself, as well. Once they are doing it for themselves, then it makes no difference whether there is one animal or two. It would be to the country's advantage. Or take gardens: How much fruit goes to waste because it was not procured in time?

[Woman] That is true.

[Gorbachev] In our country, sometimes things are sold in buckets and sacks, and whoever wants can put down a ruble, pick it up and away you go. Along the roadside.

[Man] (?Garden produce just isn't taken).

[Gorbachev] What is not taken goes to the livestock farms to feed the cattle. It is a disgrace. Now we are reinforcing our cooperatives thoroughly, providing transportation, refrigerator facilities, and shops. We even are giving them the right to conclude contracts to gather all this in and sell it, too. If we now gather in everything, conserve and process -- let them get on with it -- what is produced in agriculture, on kolkhozes and sovkhozes and in the private sector as well, then I can tell you, our supplies could be increased by 25 percent right now.

[Correspondent] Two kindergartens, in the central settlement and in the settlement of Pabozhi, have been built on the kolkhoz in the last 5 years. The kindergartens are equipped with everything necessary for the children's well-rounded development: a swimming pool; conservatories; workshops for teaching the very first skills of useful labor; playrooms; halls for gymnastics, dancing, and aerobics; music rooms; summer verandas; and much else besides. The children of kolkhoz farmers are taken into the kindergarten from the age of 3, and until the child reaches that age, the mother is freed from work. This period is not counted as an interrpution in her working career. The family is given a monthly subsidy, the amount of which is determined by the number of children, the length of time the family has worked on the kolkhoz, and other factors. A system for the comprehensive education of children and young people has been set up jointly by parents, kindergarten, and school personnel.

Address to Kolkhoz Akiv

LD191105 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 18 Feb 87

[18 February address by CPSU General Secretary Gorbachev to the Adazhi Kolkhoz Aktiv--recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Here is a meeting, now already with the aktiv, with front-rankers of the agrofirm of the Adazhi Kolkhoz.

[Begin Gorbachev recording] I must say that during our stay on your farm, from what we saw and heard, and when finally at the completion of all this we visited the school and the nursery, I would like to say, in a word: You have done well, you have created a good farm. You have created a good settlement and now, I think, what we saw at the new school and the nursery is what probably opens a new stage for our rural village. Well, we are still far from it, far from it, [repeats himself] but I think what you are doing is very correct. What you do later, in stepping up production and increasing profits, must not be directed at just anything, but at the organization of life of the rural inhabitant.

I see the houses going up. They say not everyone has been accommodated; families are still separating and growing. There probably always will be problems, but your direction -- to produce more for the country, and having received a profit for this, on the basis of this increase, you use it to change the lifestyle of the Soviet peasantry, raising it to a high standard from the material standpoint and in the spiritual sphere of development -- this is wonderful. I welcome this and approve your work. [Applause]

One must do everything for the children and the people, but it must be done in such a way as not to engender consumerism, -- consumerism and living at the expense of others. I think you will agree with this. There is less danger of this in a rural area, because a rural boy, a rural girl, a rural family always are connected to nature, life, and the solution of specific issues. This somehow ensures against the development of the tendencies of consumerism and living at the expense of others. I want to support your experiment. I do not call you a farm now, but an agro-firm. I know the road along which your agro-firm traveled up to the present day, when you decided to engage not only in agriculture but in the processing of agricultural products and to find other business, shall we say, to do with subsidiary business, occupations that engage the people year-round so that people benefit society and themselves on their incomes, increases being based on this the fact that you have engaged in this, and will do so in the future -- I saw a draft plan for a processing enterprise -- I think that, in this sense, as well, you provide a good example for other kolkhozes and sovkhoses. The more so in the framework of the agro-industrial complex. the legal prerequisites are being set up for this movement. I want to support you in this, as well. [end recording]

MOSCOW REPORTS DEMONSTRATION BY TEENAGERS

LD231652 Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Text] There was a demonstration by teenagers in Moscow on Sunday [22 February]. A Radio Moscow reporter says about 500 secondary and vocational school students aged 14 to 17 were taking part. They carried slogans denouncing an informal alliance of their age-mates in Lyubertsy, a town in the outskirts of Moscow. The newly founded alliance, deriving its name from the suburb, opposes what it considers as noxious Western influence in young people.

However, the alliance's militant methods of defending its views have gained it notoriety. The demonstration by young people in Moscow against those methods was calm except for minor violations of public order. A shop window was smashed in an avenue in downtown Moscow.

IOSIF BEGUN ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FROM CHISTOPOL

AU230920 Paris AFP in English 0917 GMT 23 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Moscow, Feb 23 (AFP) -- Iosif Begun, a Jewish Soviet mathematician and dissident released from prison Friday, arrived at the Kazan railway station here Monday to a triumphant welcome by a crowd of dissidents.

A score of fellow refuzniks -- Soviet Jews not allowed to emigrate to Israel -- triumphantly carried Mr. Begun off the train.

"I did not sign any declaration promising to stop anti-Soviet activities," said Mr. Begun, 55, adding that his "dream" was still to emigrate to Israel.

He still wore the blue Chistopol prison uniform and was accompanied by his wife Ina and their son Boris.

Mr. Begun had been serving a seven year prison sentence since 1983 at Chistopol, 600 kilometers (360 miles) from Moscow, on charges of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda. The prison term was to be followed by five years of internal exile.

He had served several terms of internal exile since 1971 for teaching Hebrew, which is outlawed in the Soviet Union. [passage omitted]

VADIM ZAGLADIN SAYS DISSIDENT POET RELEASED

LD201426 Hamburg DPA in German 1338 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Excerpt] Bonn, (DPA) -- The Soviet poet Nizamedtin Akhmetov has been released from prison camp and is receiving medical treatment in a hospital. This was said to SPD Party Chairman Willy Brandt by the Soviet Central Committee member Vadim Zagladin, a party spokesman said on Friday.

Brandt had thanked Zagladin for settling the case, for which he had been campaigning for years. The SPD chief hoped that, as promised, Akhmetov would emigrate to the Federal Republic soon.

The 39-year-old Bashkiri has been in prison since he was 18 for "anti-Soviet agitation;" he has been interned, among other places, in the Talgar special psychiatric clinic near Alma-Ata (Kazakhstan). Akhmetov is an honorary member of the French and Austrian Pen-Club. He was awarded the International Poetry Prize while in prison.

He was to have returned from exile at the beginning of 1983, but was again sentenced when he tried to write a letter to the Madrid followup meeting of the CSCE. Akhmetov was the author of a cry for help smuggled from a camp, which was discovered a few years ago in the Federal Republic in a Soviet delivery of timber. It began with the words: "People, we need your help!" [passage omitted]

KAZAKH PLENUM CARRIES OUT PERSONNEL CHANGES

LD211339 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1250 GMT 21 Feb 87

[Text] Alma-Ata, 21 Feb (TASS) -- Two thirds of the members of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee are working in the spheres of material production, science, culture and in organs of people's power. This helps to implement effectively the CPSU policy directed toward the acceleration of the socioeconomic development of Soviet society. This is what Gennadiy Kolbin, leader of Kazakh communists, said today at the plenum of the communist party central committee of this Soviet Asian republic.

Most of the members of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee are personally showing examples of restructuring and are waging a struggle for overcoming the negative phenomena of the past. Not all the members of the central committee, however, are demonstrating exemplary honesty, party principledness, and selflessness, Gennadiy Kolbin pointed out. Gross deviation from party, economic, and moral standards have been committed by Vladimir Kadyrbayev, chairman of the republican trade unions, and Seylkhan Akkoziyev, chairman of the Dzhambul Oblispolkom, who both have been relieved of the posts they held. Dyusetay Bekezhanov, former assistant to the first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, was engaged in favoritism, arbitrarily meddled in the selection of cadres, and nominated his relatives and acquaintances to leading posts.

By a unanimous decision the above-named communists were removed from membership of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee for flagrant violations of the requirements of the CPSU statute and for actions contravening the party line. Dyusetay Bekezhanov was expelled from the party ranks.

The following, who enjoy the support and confidence of communists, were elected members of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee: Nazhameden Iskaliyev, first secretary of the Uralskaya Obkom; Grigoriy Knyazev, minister of internal affairs of the republic; Svyatoslav Medvedev, chairman of the executive committee of Dzhambul Oblast soviet of people's deputies; Yuriy Meshcheryakov, first secretary of Oktyabrskiy Rayon party committee.

The plenum expressed the firm determination of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee to put an end to violations of the Leninist norms of party life.

KAZAKH SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM MOVES OFFICIALS

Knyazev Transferred

LD231413 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 0200 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The Presidium of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet relieved Nikolay Trifonovich Knyazev from his duties as minister of the Kazakh SSR, in connection with his election as chairman of Alma-Ata Oblast Soviet Executive Committee of People's Deputies.

Kuppayev Moved

LD231358 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Kazakh 0200 GMT 19 Feb 87

[Text] The Presidium of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet decrees the appointment of Tulegen Bayguzhevich Kuppayev, first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, as minister of the Kazakh SSR.

The Presidium of the Kazakh SSR Supreme Soviet relieved Tulegen Bayguzevich Kuppayev from his duties as first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers, in connection with his transfer to this post.

GEORGIAN PLENUM DISCUSSES DISASTER AFTERMATH

PM231644 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[PRAVDA correspondent G. Lebanidze report under general heading "Plenums Held"]

[Text] Tbilisi, 22 Feb -- The Georgian Communist Party Central Committee plenum discussed the tasks of the republic's party organization in overcoming the consequences of the natural disasters and ensuring the fulfillment of targets for the 2d year of the 5-year plan.

D.I. Patiashvili, first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, who delivered the report, and those who spoke in the debate noted that the losses from the onslaught of the elements would have been considerably greater had it not been for the population's staunchness and fortitude and the great political organization work done by party committees to ensure a high level of organization. Some 20,000 people were taken out of the disaster zone by collective efforts. The necessary conditions have been created for their normal life.

The whole country extended the hand of fraternal assistance to the victims. The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers adopted a resolution containing an extensive program of assistance from union organs and ministries in eliminating the consequences of the natural disasters. All organizational and political work in the localities must be devoted to the implementation of this program, it was stressed at the plenum. Particular significance is attached to increasing the role and responsibility of communists and of every primary party organization in mobilizing the labor collectives for the restructuring and acceleration in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) plenum.

ZAYKOV ADDRESSES ULYANOVSK AIRCRAFT BUILDERS

PM191155 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 Feb 87 p 2

[TASS report: "Fulfilling Everything That Has Been Planned"]

[Text] Ulyanovsk, 13 February -- The city on the Volga, the birthplace of V.I. Lenin, is one of the country's biggest industrial centers. The workers of its enterprises, like all Soviet people, have actively joined in creative work whose aim is to accelerate restructuring.

They welcomed wholeheartedly, as their sacred concern, the large-scale tasks set by the party. This idea was the leitmotif of the frank talks with workers and specialists of the Ulyanovsk aviation complex conducted by L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He then met with working people of the enterprise, which creates the "Ruslan" aircraft, the most powerful in the world, and passenger airliners.

L.N. Zaykov addressed the meeting.

In Russia there are sacred places where you can really feel the course of history , the underlying link between the times and the generations, he said. V.I. Lenin's birthplace -- Ulyanovsk -- is just such a place for every Communist, every Soviet person, and all progressive people of the world.

On familiarizing yourself with your unique industrial complex, contructed according to the latest world in modern technology, you can see for yourself the grandeur and might of the land of October! It is without exaggeration a national asset of ours. You are convinced yet again that our people can tackle everything, that we can do everything!

People's mood, their ardent patriotic desire to increase their contribution to the motherland's economic and defense might, is particulrly gratifying.

My talks with workers and specialists and our frank, sometimes sharp discussion of urgent problems make it possible to draw the main conclusion: Communists and nonparty people fully support the course of Lenin's Party elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum and the 27th party congress and warmly approve the decisions of the January Central Committee Plenum. Restructuring has become urgent, has become a vital necessity. Each one of us can understand that it is essential. It may be said with complete justification that restructuring is the vital business of the entire Soviet people.

The task of the comprehensive in-depth democratization of Soviet society is being promoted to the fore. As M.S. Gorbachev stressed at the plenum, this is the lever which will make it possible to include in restructuring its determining force -- the people -- in other words to achieve the full use of the socialist system's powerful potential.

The importance of the January Central Committee plenum consists primarily in the fact that it clearly defined the ways of consistently implementing the party's line toward the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. The second main conclusion from the plenum's results is that openness, as the most important form of the power of the people, is an essential condition for the solution of the tasks which have been set. [paragraph continued]

The third conclusion is that the people's broad participation in the management of the socialist society is being implemented through the elective system in order to give people the opportunity to express their attitude toward a large number of candidacies put forward and to ensure the influx of fresh forces at all levels of management and leadership.

Finally, a determining link in restructuring should be an all-around intensification of the personal responsibility for the matter in hand of every working person of our country, be he a worker, team leader, shop chief, enterprise director, minister, or worker in the party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs.

The CPSU Central Committee, L.N. Zaykov continued, in assessing the processes taking place in our society, draws attention to the need to examine realistically, without falling into extremes, specific results in the implementation of restructuring. The overestimation of what has been achieved is impermissible here, just as we must not fail to notice the slightest advance or morsel of positive experience. Tremendous creative efforts and a selfless struggle will be required to see the business of restructuring through to the end.

Our enemies abroad are in fact most frightened by the fact that restructuring is gathering strength and becoming irreversible. People in the West want to see the USSR economically weak. But the party and people will never allow that!

Restructuring is developing along the entire front. A new social atmosphere is taking shape and there is a growing implacability toward shortcomings and a desire to improve matters, organization, and discipline in production. Stagnation processes in society are being resolutely overcome and the mechanism of delay is being broken. The achievements of scientific and technical progress are combining with the planned economy, the role of intensive factors in its development is being increased, and the entire powerful potential of socialism is being put in motion.

The positive processes taking place in the country today and the in-depth renewal of all aspects of our society's life can be clearly traced in the example of the many thousands-strong collective of the Ulyanovsk aviation complex.

Here on the bank of the great Russian river a leading base has been created for the production of the world's most powerful aircraft -- the renowned "Ruslans." Your collective has also been instructed to perform one more task of state importance -- assimilating in the current 5-year plan the production of the new highly economical Tu-204 passenger airliner. The country has put all that is newest into the complex. Modern, highly productive equipment has been installed in the shops.

I am not setting myself the task right now of analyzing the enterprise's work in detail. But much is immediately obvious and in their talks people do not conceal shortcomings. Look how the expensive equipment is used. It basically operates for one shift. The shift coefficient is 1.18 and for lathes with numerical program control it is 1.35. The proportion of manual labor remains high with such a high degree of equipment for production.

Enterprises' transition to the multishift work system is a component of the restructuring of the national economy and its transfer to an intensive path of development. The implementation of this task is aimed at improving the use of the production potential which has been created, accelerating scientific and technical progress, and improving the quality of output.

The experience of the labor collectives of Leningrad and Kharkov Oblasts and of your own Ulyanovsk Oblast shows convincingly that the transfer of equipment to two-shift or three-shift operation makes it possible rapidly to substantially increase production efficiency and at the same time opens up an opportunity for improving working people's social and consumer conditions.

The routine session of the CPSU Central Committee Politiburo approved a resolution on the transition of associations, enterprises, and organizations of industry and other sectors of the national economy to the multishift work system. This measure is designed to ensure the achievement of specific economic results: an increase in the production of high-quality output, the growth of labor productivity and the return on investment, and the raising of the rthymical nature of production.

Of course, resolving the task which has been set is no simple matter. Incidentally, not everyone is satisfied with the new work system. And why? Because they cannot indiscriminately force everyone to transfer to the two-shift of three-shift system without first of all restructuring the entire organization of work at enterprises and also -- very important -- the services sphere. The party central committee understands that.

That is why it is planned to introduce a number of additional moral and material incentives, benefits, and bonuses for workers, foremen, and other specialists working evening and night shifts. We must embark all together as they say on the solution of the most important national economic task -- the full utilization of equipment.

At the present stage of the scientific and technical revolution the problem of the rational use and saving of material resources is becoming increasingly acute. L.N. Zaykov then dwelled in detail on ways of increasing the yield of the enterprise's scientific and technical and intellectual potential. In this connection emphasis was placed on the importance of a scientifically substantiated idea of the production facility's manufacturing processes.

At enterprises in many sectors and regions as, indeed, in your Ulyanovsk Oblast, there is a certain prejudice concerning the possibility of the widespread utilization of rotary technology.

Some people are frightened by the erroneous opinion that rotary lines are suitable only for the manufacture of mass-produced components. But that is not so. It is also possible to produce components in small series on these lines, but on one very important condition -- the mastering of group technology that is the very basis of the organization of modern production. Incidentally, this must be done everywhere -- on flexible systems and a processing centers.

It is important to note one futher colossal advantage of rotary equipment. It fully accords with modern requirements and the quality of output because it ensures high precision and all-around control and substantially improve working conditions.

Following the example of the Leningrad workers Ulyanovsk has elaborated and is implementing a comprehensive program for the intensification of production. This is a very good thing. But time does not stand still. It requires the constant improvement of such programs and their compliance with the increasingly complex tasks of accelerating technical progress. Such programs are needed in every sector, in every large industrial center.

Work under the conditions of broad democracy and openness requires that the party organizations and all leaders take nonstandard decisions, abandon set cliches, and elaborate bold approaches toward organizational, ideological, and, of course, economic activity.

The raising of cadres' responsibility and the alteration of the work style are obliging one and all not to avoid urgent issues, as they did before, following the "all in good time" principle, but to resolve them persistently as rapidly as possible.

The Ulyanovsk aviation complex must become the beacon which all industry will be able to emulate. I have in mind questions of the standard and organization of production, the introduction of new manufacturing processes and highly productive equipment, the improvement of the quality of the output produced and, without fail, the solution of social problems.

Your city, the speaker continued, is a major industrial center, truly a city of machine builders. Machine building and metal working account for over three-fourths of its industry's production volumes. It is a case of a sector of the economy which has been given unconditional priority in the 12th 5-year plan. The party Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers recently adopted two resolutions aimed at the accelerated development of the machine building complex.

The past year has been the first stage in the resolute modernization of machine building. Its results attest to the fact that a definite step forward has been taken. But the plan for the assimilation of new equipment has been disrupted, there has been no breakthrough in the observance of contract deliveries discipline, the renewal of production is being undertaken only slowly, and there are many complaints concerning the quality of output.

This January has also proved difficult for the entire national economy. It clearly showed that not all sectors have been able to restructure their work in depth. Once again they began the year without firm reserves of work performed, once again there have been interruptions in material and technical supplies, once again deliveries have been sporadic and as a result contract commitments have been broken.

The steady operation of some sectors -- the chemical, petrochemical, pulp and paper, and timber sectors -- has been seriously impeded by interruptions in transportation and heat and electricity supplies. The unusually severe frosts and blizzards have had an effect.

But we should not put everything down to weather difficulties. Unfortunately, they are indeed cited frequently. In the first month of this year many sectors worked badly and this was noted at the CPSU Central Committee Politburo session which was held last Thursday.

The task is to make up the lag which has been allowed in the first half of the year and to reach the level for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan for all indicators.

L.N. Zaykov then dwelled on the work of state acceptance which has become a very important component in the struggle for a high technical standard and quality of output. It has literally broken down many obsolete stereotypes and widely held notions concerning the inevitability of poor quality and has become a powerful factor in shaping people's new thinking at all levels -- from team to ministry.

Nonetheless, it must be said very frankly that state acceptance has many overt and covert opponents. Some believe that everything will return to the old footing in 2-3 months.

The speaker recalled M.S. Gorbachev's words to the effect that in this work we will stand firm and will not go back on our word and will not allow the country to be flooded with badly made articles!

State acceptance is always on the side of the conscientious worker, the good worker, but those truly to blame for poor output, including enterprise leaders, will pay from their own pockets. The principle of social justice is also manifested here.

It is well known that there can be no strong social policy without a strong economy. We are resolving all economic tasks in order to ensure the best life for our people. The party gives priority to the question of improving the housing conditions of each family and resolving the food problem.

The possibilities for drastically accelerating the training of worker cadres and the construction of housing and sociocultural establishments were examined on the basis of specific examples from the aviation complex.

It was noted that the quality of construction remains a very acute problem. Obviously there is an urgent need to extend state acceptance to construction organizations, primarily those which are engaged in erecting apartment blocks and sociocultural establishments.

Great attention was paid to the development of the municipal economy, urban transport, trade, and other sectors on which people's daily comfort depends. The need was stressed to increase the production of consumer goods and to develop the network of cooperative enterprises more extensively.

The party's entire policy since the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) Plenum has been aimed at developing and encouraging the masses' initiative, the speaker continued. That is the essence of the socialist democratization of society. This policy received specific content and embodiment in the draft USSR Law on the state enterprise which, by a decision of the Central Committee January plenum, has been submitted for nationwide discussion.

This law's specific nature and importance consists primarily in the fact that it expresses in concentrated form the major steps which are now being implemented in the country to improve management and methods of economic administration, to fundamentally transform the economy's material and technical base, and to ensure the optimum combination of territorial and sectorial interests.

This is the first time in our history that exclusive opportunities are being created for such large-scale expansion of enterprises' autonomy. Broad horizons of truly socialist self-management are being opened up.

We are boldly transferring to a new principle in the selection and promotion of leaders -- their selection through election. That will promote thousands of vigorous new workers.

But we must also clearly understand something else: Democracy is not anarchy but, on the contrary, supreme collective responsibility, and openness is not unbridled criticism.

Appointment by election should not result in overfamiliarity, in pushing through "one's own" people -- leaders who are kindly at the state's expense.

Restructuring needs people who are not indifferent, questing people who support the cause, who are intolerant toward slovenliness and laxity.

Work under the conditions of this broad democracy will require that party organizations and party committees at all levels seek new, nonstandard, approaches, renounce cliche, and develop fresh skills in organizational and cadre activity.

In ordr not to emasculate the thrust of the innovations and not to let slip the great opportunities opening up for restructuring all social production, we must not imply discuss the draft law but also prepare in a thorough and specific manner for its implementation. It is necessary to seek to ensure that it words from the first day.

We must never forget for a single minute that the basis of the new law consists of the measures of the party and Soviet government aimed at overcoming everything which is preventing us from making resolute headway on the path of the acceleration of society's socioeconomic development.

The speaker then dwelled on international questions.

In conclusion had said: This year is an unusual one -- it is the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October. The vigor and tempo of our work must also be unusual. We must not only fulfill everything that has been planned but also make this year a turning point, a year of large-scale and irreversible changes for the better. So that they can be felt by every Soviet person, every honest worker.

Yu. Murgin, leader of a team of assemblymen-riveters and shop party organization secretary, assemblyman-fitter V. Krasikov, and lathe operator ahd Shop Party Organization Secretary V. Kinigopullo spoke of the collective's desire to render even more vigorous and purposeful assistance to the implementation of the decisions of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) and January plenums. On behalf of the Ulyanovsk aircraft builders the speakers stated that every production worker will do everything in his power to achieve a decisive turn for the better and to accelerate the tempo of restructuring aimed at accelerating Soviet society's socioeconomic development.

TRUD REPORTS BELORUSSIAN TU CONGRESS DISCUSSIONS

PM061207 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Feb 87 p 2

[Report by S. Vaganov and A. Repin under the "Trade Unions and Restructuring" rubric: "Practical Check: The Belorussian Trade Union Congress"]

[Text] Minsk -- We want to begin our comments on the Belorussian Trade Unions Congress with a quotation which L.P. Spikor, chairman of the Grodno Oblast Trade Union Council, cited in his speech. It reads as follows: "It is planned that the feasibility of building the sanatorium in question will be ascertained during the first 5-year plan after the year 2000." It was signed K.G. Trunov, deputy chairman of the Central Council for the Administration of Trade Union Health Resorts. Laughter broke out in the hall, although, of course, it is no laughing matter.

What we are discussing here in fact is the exploitation of the abundant radon-rich water deposits in Dyatlovskiy Rayon, whose medicinal properities match those of the renowned Tskhaltubskiy water; we are ultimately discussing the building of a sanatorium complex designed to meet the urgent needs of all the western regions of the country.

This episode clearly concerns only one aspect of trade unions' activity, but it does, in our view, reflect a quite noteworthy feature of the congress. The delegates focussed their attention more than ever before on making an in-depth analysis of the style, form, and methods of work of trade unions from primary organizations right up to the Belorussian Trade Union Council and AUCCTU apparatuses. Coordinated action rather than countless agreements reached on paper or over the telephone was the constant theme of virtually all speeches from the congress rostrum.

Trade unions must make a much bigger contribution to the ever increasing rate of restructuring of the economic area. The speech delivered by V.I. Goncharik, chairman of the Belorussian Trade Union Council, stressed that "many trade union councils and committees have been unable to fully concentrate labor collectives' efforts on the basic areas of economic intensification."

The republic's economic development, particularly last year, is characterized by the overcoming of stagnation phenomena and undoubted dynamism in the growth of industrial production facilities and labor productivity. The results achieved in terms of these indicators are markedly ahead of not only the plan targets but also the socialist pledges and the average annual rates set in the 5-year plan. An interesting experiment has been carried out on Belorussian railroads. The agro-industrial complex has operated well, meeting the targets for the sale of all products to the state, save flax. However, analysis of the structure of the indicators forces you to conclude that the targets are mainly achieved by making use of the most easily available reserves. It must be frankly acknowledged that the deep reserves are as yet untapped.

In an attempt to "grasp the ungraspable," N.V. Demidov, toolmaker at the "Gorizont" Production Asociation, said, "we are losing sight of the main guidelines. And indeed the poor quality of Minsk television sets is now widely commented on, and this is largely due to the fact that competition is organized in such a way that it fails to encourage a creative approach on the part of collectives."

How do you cure yourself of the chronic disease of formalism, and not just formalism in organizing competition? In the opinion of many speakers, A.T. Lyubchenko, chairman of the Mogilev Oblast Trade Union Council, and S.V. Germel, tractor driver at Braginskiy Rayon's Telman Kolkhoz, among others, you can only eradicate formalism and carry out real restructuring of trade union work by developing independence, backing initiative, and enhancing responsibility at grassroots level -- both production and trade union. Some experience of this kind of approach has been built up, particularly at the "Belavtomaz" Association, where labor collective councils have been set up which are on the whole operating successfully. V.N. Gulidova, fitter at Minsk's automobile plant and member of that associations' trade union committee, spoke briefly about the experience gained there, raising a number of problems concerning worker self-management, the setting up of quality control groups, and the introduction of full financial autonomy.

Unfortunately, this kind of innovative approach to work is still appearing only slowly. Lack of faith in the ability of labor collectives and low-level trade union links, organs, and organizations to solve urgent questions independently undermines their initiative and sense of responsibility for end results and generates a bureaucratic style of relations at every level.

A.G. Dumler, chairman of Shklovskiy Rayon's Frunze Kolkhoz, expressed himself very pointedly on this score.

Restructuring of the economic mechanism is impossible without a comprehensive approach to solving these problems. Rating the work of the Belorussian Trade Union Council as on the whole satisfactory, the congress delegates stressed that many workers in its apparatus and in subordinate trade union councils and committees are still remote from true, vital human interests. The following example, among others, was cited: More than 160,000 jobs -- representing 28 percent of the total -- do not match modern requirements.

It is actual workers who are guilty of indifference toward people, arrogance, bureaucracy, incompetence, speechifying, and red tape, and other negative phenomena. That is why the congress paid quite a lot of attention to the problem of selecting, placing, and educating cadres. Prior to the reports and elections job certification discussions were held involving more than 4,000 workers, almost 150 of whom, were not, so to speak, recommended. But that does not mean, the main speaker and others who spoke during the debate stressed, that the problem is solved. A systematic approach and implementation of the criteria laid down by the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum -- that is to say, workers' political, professional, and moral qualities, their ability, real contribution to work, and attitude to people -- must prevail when selecting, placing, and assessing cadres.

The cause of restructuring is directly dependent on restructuring work attitudes. The signs of this restructuring are visible but are still far from being on the scale demanded by the times and above all the second year of the 5-year plan and 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

The congress was addressed by G.G. Bartoshevich, second secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee.

N.N. Slyunkov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; G.S. Tarazevich, chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium; and G.I. Yanayev, secretary of the AUCCTU; took part in the work of the congress.

An organizational plenum of the Belorussian Republic Trade Union Council was held. V.I. Goncharik was elected chairman of the Belorussian Trade Union Council.

BRIEFS

UZBEK POWER PLANT PROJECT -- Basic construction work on the Talimardzhan Power Plant complex in the Uzbek SSR is now underway. A total of 10 million rubles will be invested in the project over a period of 12 months. Highways and railroads have already been constructed through the desert region, and the foundations for the first power plant were excavated in January. Cement workers are now working on the foundations. The Talimardzhan installation is of considerable significance. Its architects have planned for four power generating blocks, each resting on iron and concrete foundations that are 14 meters deep, enabling them to resist the power of force 9 earthquakes. Each plan will generate 800,000 kw of electricity. A natural gas field near the complex will facilitate the provision of gas to the plants, the operation of which will considerably improve the power supply in five allied republics in Central Asia. [Summary] [Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0215 GMT 12 Feb 87 NC]

ACADEMICIAN MARCHUK VIEWS RESTRUCTURING SCIENCE

PM191517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 87 First Edition p 3

[Article by G. Marchuk, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, under the rubric "Thinking Out Loud": "Science at a Turning Point"]

[Text] We have embarked on a period of major transformations in our society's life -- transformations whose profound scale and inner logic were reflected in M.S. Gorbachev's report and the other materials of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum. They wholly apply to scientists too.

The restructuring we are carrying out in the organization of science is based on the need to resolutely point science in the direction of the needs of social production, and to swing production toward the active implementation of the ideas of the entire range of science. Scientists at the USSR Academy of Sciences and all its institutes together with higher school scientists have focused their efforts on developing pure science, bearing in mind that pure science is a generator of ideas, creates breakthroughs into fundamentally new areas of the natural sciences, and makes it possible for them to reach new and higher levels of efficiency.

Soviet science is a world leader in mathematics, theoretical physics, radiophysics, and astronomy. Outstanding results have been obtained in the field of space research, laser technology, organo-elemental chemistry, the creation of light alloys and magnetic materials, and in certain areas of molecular biology. We must maintain our lead in these fields and vigorously move forward. However, there are a number of scientific areas in which we lag behind world standards, sometimes to a considerable extent. Currently the academy is drawing up forecasts for the development of the most important scientific areas, on the basis of which programs for achieving world standards in these areas of science, equipment, and technology will also be created together with the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology. We have an excellent opportunity for doing this.

However, the boosting of scientific research is only one aspect of the problem. The implementation of research requires great work in national economic sectors too and their close cooperation with Academy for Sciences institutes and the country's leading VUZS at the earliest research stage. All this is of exceptional importance if our country is to enter the new technological era of the 21st century.

The complex process of major restructuring covering our entire country is also taking place at the USSR Academy of Sciences. It will be discussed in greater detail at the March general meeting of the USSR Academy of Sciences. The main avenues of the restructuring of science are the expansion of the rights and improvement of the activeness of divisions uniting scientists in different specialities, the creation of more flexible organizational structures at scientific research institutes, and the sharp stepping up of collaboration between the USSR Academy of Sciences and union republic academies of sciences.

Academy divisions which formerly carried out scientific methodology functions have been given the right to deal with material and financial resources, to shape the plans of the institutes subordinate to them, to organize international scientific ties, and to wind up inefficient subunits. [paragraph continues]

They also have full responsibility for developing relevant scientific avenues in the country under conditions of the further development of democratic principles. All this is backed up by the organizational work carried out by the USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium to strengthen two recently created divisions -- the Information Science and Computing Division and the Machine Building, Mechanics, and Central Processes Division.

Stagnant organizational structures are also being broken up in institutes -- the main components of the Academy of Sciences. This is aimed, on the one hand, at effectively strengthening scientific schools, and, on the other hand, at ensuring an influx of young talent, including in the leadership of departments and laboratories. The flexible structure of scientific institutions makes it possible to react rapidly to constantly emerging new directions in research and to eliminate subdivisions that have already become obsolete.

The central role in all this is played by cadres and the human factor. Science perhaps demonstrates particularly clearly the relationship between a scientist's individuality and his qualities as citizens, public figure, and leader and educator of the young. And in this area we have particularly many unsolved problems. A situation prevailed whereby many leading posts in institutes, departments, and laboratories were occupied for many years by the same scientists. This ossified situation objectively hampered the promotion of young creative forces to scientific leadership. The USSR Academy of Sciences Presidium has drawn up proposals to change the system for promoting cadres at academy institutions.

Really major discoveries are made by young scientists under the supervision of revered scientists. That is why science demands a constant influx of young people. This can only be done if it is possible to constantly admit VUZ graduates and postgraduates to scientific institutions.

Our people are proud of Soviet science's outstanding achievements and support scientists and specialists in every possible way in reaching the highest levels. And scientific working people are greatful for this support. But we could do a great deal more and better if we were given more support in implementing our plans locally. Support for an attention to science is particularly requied at the academy's regional centers in the Urals and the Far East, as well as at the scientific centers of union republic academies of sciences. Our academies are given enough money and there is good moral support everywhere, but things are extremely difficult since coordinating construction and obtaining material resources in the necessary quantities is an almost insuperable task for us. In this respect we play the part of a "residual component" of our economy. Yet if we do not start storming new scientific bastions today, in 5-7 years national economic sectors will be without new technologies, materials, and equipment. It is necessary to change the thinking of the people on whom science's destiny depends. After all, that too is restructuring.

Our country is switching to an intensive economy. Financial autonomy is starting to have an increasingly visible effect on the improvement of national economic efficiency. At the same time, it is starting to bring factors of scientific and technical progress into play, since without the continuous introduction of innovations and without science and intensive economy in any economic component is simply impossible. New forms of the organization of scientific and technical progress are also entering our life: intersectorial scientific and technical complexes, scientific production associations, the comprehensive CEMA program for scientific and technical progress. All this is creating a firm foundation for our country's further development on a new economic footing.

SOKOLOV NOTES RESTRUCTURING WITHIN ARMED FORCES

PM231202 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 87 First Edition p 2

[Article by USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov: "Watching Over Peace and the Motherland's Security"]

[Text] The Soviet people and their glorious Armed Forces are today celebrating Soviet Army and Navy Day. Created by V.I. Lenin and the Communist Party, the Soviet Armed Forces have for 69 years selflessly and loyally served their motherland and reliably defended the gains of Great October and the cause of socialism.

This year's holiday is taking place on the eve of the anniversary of the 27th party congress, which comprehensively developed the strategic course set by the CPSU Central Committee April (1986) Plenum toward the acceleration of the USSR's socioeconomic development and the restructuring of Soviet society. This process was given depth and purpose by the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

The restructuring which is taking place in the country is under way in the Armed Forces too. Army and Navy personnel unanimously support the party's policy, are working intensively to ensure the high-quality fulfillment of the tasks arising from the congress decisions, and strive for higher indicators in combat and political training and in increasing the combat readiness of the troops and naval forces.

The high assessment of the Armed Forces given at the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum makes it incumbent on military cadres to work still more persistently and purposefully to fulfill the tasks set. The special significance of this work arises from the need to renew all aspects of our society's life, and also from the complex international situation and the increase in the threat of war which emanates from imperialism. Imperialism's reactionary circles, and above all the United States, are continuing to accelerate the arms race, implementing long-term military programs, and unleashing military conflicts in various regions of the world which they arbitrarily declare to be spheres of "vital interests."

The military-strategic parity which has grown up between the USSR and the United States and between the NATO countries and the Warsaw Pact states does not suit Washington. In order to rule the world and dictate its will to other states, the United States seeks to acquire unilateral military superiority. It therefore discards agreements which limit nuclear arsenals. That is what it has done with the SALT II treaty. For more than 18 months the Soviet Union adhered to a unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions. But the United States not only failed to join in, but continued its own tests. This forces the USSR to end the operation of our moratorium.

The Pentagon is now hurriedly preparing to embark on the phased deployment of a large-scale ABM system which is being created under the SDI program and deliberately moving toward scrapping the Soviet-American ABM Treaty -- a very important brake on the arms race. The U.S. desire to place weapons in space as soon as possible has the goal of making the SDI program irreversible and basically excluding the possibility of the limitation or control of the arms race.

In order to break the dangerous chain of events, stop the arms race, and prevent nuclear war, the Soviet Union has put forward a number of constructive peace-loving initiatives and practical measures. On 15 January 1986 the USSR put forward a program for a nuclear-free world.

The 27th CPSU Congress drew up the Principles of a Comprehensive System of International Security. A unique opportunity to put an end to the arms race forever was opened up by the package of radical measures put forward by our country in Reykjavik. The Soviet Union and all the planet's peace-loving forces are appealing for progress from the point reached at the Soviet-American meeting in the Icelandic capital further along the path toward the reduction and elimination of nuclear arms and the prevention of their placing in space, rather than backtracking, as the American administration is doing.

Together with its allies the USSR has taken bold steps on questions of confidence-building measures and the reduction of conventional arms and armed forces in Europe and expressed readiness to completely eliminate chemical weapons. Our country's new approach to building a world that is free from nuclear weapons and nonviolent is expressed in the Delhi Declaration. The Soviet Union actively calls for the strengthening of peace and security in Asia and the Pacific, the creation of nuclear-free zones, the just political settlement of regional conflicts, and the lessening of international tension in various regions of the globe.

The responsible, constructive approach of the CPSU and the Soviet state to the problems of war and peace also stands out clearly in Soviet military doctrine, with its unequivocally defensive thrust. Its main proposition is not to permit war, to prevent it. The attainment of this goal is ensure by political means, and also by maintaining at the necessary level the country's defense and the combat might of the USSR Armed Forces. This might ensure that everyone must reckon with it. At the same time it threatens nobody and is a real factor for preserving peace and ensuring international security.

Soviet military doctrine provides for the need to maintain military-strategic parity. Our principled line on this question is that we do not seek military superiority over other countries, but we will not permit superiority over us. The Soviet Union has never initiated the development or creation of new types of weapons. It was forced to strengthen its defense capability in response to the growing threat from the United States.

The Soviet Union formerly advocated and advocates now the decisive lowering of the level of military confrontation, the cutting of military potentials to the level necessary and sufficient for defense, and the complete elimination of nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction from the strategic balance. Naturally, this can only be done on the basis of the principles of reciprocity, with effective verification and on condition that equal security is ensured. A few days ago, in his speech at the Moscow international forum "For a Nuclear-free World, for the Survival of Mankind," M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, once again noted that the Soviet Union is ready to renounce its status as a nuclear power and reduce all other arms to the minimum reasonable sufficiency.

The provisions of Soviet military doctrine are oriented exclusively toward ensuring the reliable defense of our motherland's freedom and independence. This is convincingly indicated by the fact that the USSR has unilaterally pledged not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Together with the other Warsaw Pact countries the Soviet Union has officially stated that it will never, in any circumstances, start military operations against another state unless it and its allies are themselves the targets of an attack. Imperialist propaganda fabrications about the "Soviet military threat" are therefore absurd. In reality those who talk most about this nonexistent threat have themselves not renounced the use or threat of force or taken a single step toward lessening military confrontation and tension.

The entire heroic history of the Soviet Armed Forces confirms the unchanging nature of their lofty purpose -- to defend the socialist fatherland. They have not attacked anyone in the past and do not intend to do so in the future. All the wars that the Soviet state has had to wage have been imposed on it. And they have been waged with the aim of rebuffing aggression and routing the aggressor. Under the leadership of Lenin's party, our army inflicted a decisive defeat on the domestic counterrevolution and foreign military intervention in the years of the Civil War. It made a decisive contribution to the routing of the armed forces of fascist Germany, its satellites, and militarist Japan, and appeared in the eyes of all progressive mankind as a liberator army.

The personnel of today's Armed Forces are characterized by such lofty qualities as boundless devotion to the cause of Lenin's party and Great October and to the Soviet people, conscious military discipline, and ardent patriotism and internationalism. Soviet servicemen worthily continue the traditions of selfless service to the motherland. They display courage and heroism in giving assistance to the Afghan people in defense of their revolutionary gains. Servicemen acted valiantly in elimninating the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES and of natural disasters. In the course of day-to-day combat training and service, in keeping combat watch, and in resolving all their tasks, the personnel of units and ships selflessly fulfill their military duty.

In conditions where imperialism's aggressiveness is intensifying and the rate of development of the means and methods of armed struggle and military matters in general is increasing, higher demands than in the past are made on the Armed Forces and on their constant combat readiness. This must be such as to allow nobody to catch us unawares, such as to ensure the ability of troops and naval forces to rebuff an attack and rout any aggressor by means of energetic combat actions. To this end it is very important constantly to improve the quality of training of troops and naval forces, to improve the style and methods of military cadres' work, to develop their capacity firmly to control their subordinate units and ships, and to seek a high level of organization and discipline.

The purpose of the restructuring in the training of troops and naval forces is to step up the practical thrust of the training of units and ships. The key to resolving this task is to ensure that training approximates as closely as possible to the combat situation and to resolutely eradicate stereotypes, oversimplification, and leniency. In all studies and exercises personnel should improve their combat skills -- acquire firm habits in the use of weapons and the utilization of their strike potential, fire power, and maneuverability and the ability to operate skillfully on the battlefield, in flights, and on sea voyages, in the most complex conditions and critical situations.

An important avenue in improving the training of troops and naval forces is to achieve the highest possible results in combat training. This can be achieved above all thanks to a broader, more comprehensive approach to training exercises and the rapid introduction into training and education practice of the achievements of scientific and technical progress, the conclusions and recommendations of military science and military art, advanced methodology, and improved training materials backup. Increasing the usefulness of every hour, every minute of training time and reducing the time taken for personnel to master weapons and hardware and combat specialities are essential conditions of restructuring.

The success of the restructuring in the Army and Navy depends crucially on military cadres -- their conviction of the need for new approaches to resolving the tasks set, their organizational qualities, and their competence. The shortcomings in cadres' work that were pointed to at the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum occur in the Armed Forces too. [paragraph continues]

Not all our commanding officers, political workers, and staff officers have yet fully grasped the essence of the restructuring, determined their own role and place in it, or realized that you must start with yourself. Certain military leaders, instead of organizing service and combat training and imposing regulation order exactingly and knowledgeably, allow leniency and oversimplification in the training of troops. All these shortcomings occur and exist, as a rule, where there is a lack of proper educational work, where there is no practical, day-to-day monitoring of their activity, and where responsibility for the sector in one's charge is low. It is necessary uncompromisingly to combat these phenomena, step up the Marxist-Leninist and professional military training and ideological and moral tempering of officiers, and ensure that the work style and methods of military cadres meet the demands of the time.

The CPSU Central Committee January Plenum expressed confidence that military cadres will continue to operate with the highest possible responsibility, increase and improve the skill and combat readiness of all branches of the Armed Forces and categories of troops, maintain military discipline at a high level, improve the ideological and moral education of personnel, and show constant concern for the living conditions of servicemen and their families. In order to justify the party's lofty trust, military cadres must work more intensively, conscientiously, creatively, and enterprisingly, take any matter, once begun, to its conclusion, and be more exacting toward themselves and their subordinate. Fundamental importance is attached to the active implementation by military cadres of current party policy in the sphere of the country's defense in the course of their day-to-day practical activity in training and educating the troops.

An essential condition of successful restructuring is the competence of military cadres. As leaders and educators of personnel, they must be highly trained politically and militarily and must have a broad technical and cultural outlook. Restructuring is impossible without the ability to see what is new, adopt it in practice, grasp the prospects for development, and resolutely reject obsolete methods and customary systems of work. Military councils, commanding officers, political organizers, and staffs should find and encourage enterprising officers capable of achieving high results in the training of troops and naval forces. Such people must be nurtured painstakingly and more must be entrusted to them. It is important skillfully to combine young and experienced cadres and to ensure their continuity and the development of all the best elements that have accumulated in the activity of commanding officers, political workers, and staffs and that has withstood the test of time.

The restructuring makes high demands on the officer's personal example. He is always before his subordinates' eyes. They learn from him, imitate him. His irreproachable moral purity, selflessness, and fidelity to his word are the basis of the officer's indisputable authority. Such an officer can rally personnel and lead them in his wake. Here an important role belongs to our military educational institutions, which are called upon not only to provide military cadres with the firm foundations of theoretical knowledge and practical skills, but also to cultivate pride in the profession of officer and the desire for self-improvement and zealous service.

Effective party political work is a necessary condition of restructuring. Here too changes are taking place today. They are aimed at renewing its content, forms, and methods and bringing them into line with the party's demands. Strengthening the links between party political work and the troops' life and making it more concrete and militant in the struggle against negative phenomena helps to increase its effectiveness. There are considerable reserves available to render more practical and fruitful the patriotic and international education of servicemen, the formation of high moral and combat qualities in them, and the concern for the satisfaction of their needs and requirements. [paragraph continues]

It is important for every measure in party political work to reach every serviceman and stimulate him to devoutly protect and augment the heroic traditions of the Communist Party, the Soviet people, and the Armed Forces.

Army and Navy primary party organizations must become the real centers of the restructuring. They face major tasks in developing intraparty democracy, criticism, and self-criticism and establishing a principled and businesslike approach. One of the most important tasks in the work of the party organizations is to ensure the Communists' vanguard role in combat training and service and to improve party leadership of the Komsomol.

The restructuring of the activity of the Armed Forces Komsomol organizaions must be aimed at increasing activeness and initiative, improving the education of young people in the Army and Navy, and improving the quality of training, qualification grades, and physical fitness of servicemen.

Socialist competition in the Armed Forces can and must increase its contribution to the restructuring. It is necessary to rid it more persistently of formalism and ostentation and seek true competitiveness and healthy rivalry in the mastery of military skills and the fulfillment and overfulfillment of combat training norms. Competition is effective when it is characterized by broad openness and clear comparability criteria and helps people to master the best experience.

One of the most crucial sectors of the restructuring in the Armed Forces is the further strengthening of the discipline and organization of personnel, the rallying of multinational collectives, and the establishment of strict regulation order everywhere. It is the duty of commanding officers, political organizers, staffs, and party organizations to organize work in every sector in such a way as to ensure that not a single serviceman remains outside the sphere of daily, active influence. Constant exactingness and every means of persuasion and strengthening of military discipline should be used in order to seek the efficient performance of personnel, their exemplary outward appearance and soldierly bearing, and their selfless, enterprising fulfillment of their military duty.

The Armed Forces, like the country as a whole, are in the initial stage of restructuring. Major work lies ahead to implement an abrupt turn toward improving the qualitative state of the troops and naval forces. The restructuring affects not just individual questions, but all spheres of the life and activity of the Armed Forces and all servicemen. It must be deepened and persistently developed, what has been done must be objectively assessed, errors must be remedied resolutely, new ways of fulfilling tasks must be sought, and the combat readiness of the Armed Forces must be improved.

The restructuring is the front line of the struggle for every Soviet person. The party calls for it to be carried out actively, boldly, and creatively. Army and Navy servicemen are responding to this call with intensive, staunch military labor. They are doing everything to mark this year -- the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October -- with new achievements in increasing the combat readiness of the Armed Forces. They see this as their contribution to the nationwide struggle for restructuring, to the strengthening of our motherland's defense capability, and to ensuring, together with the fraternal Warsaw Pact armies, the reliable defense of the gains of socialism and peace on earth.